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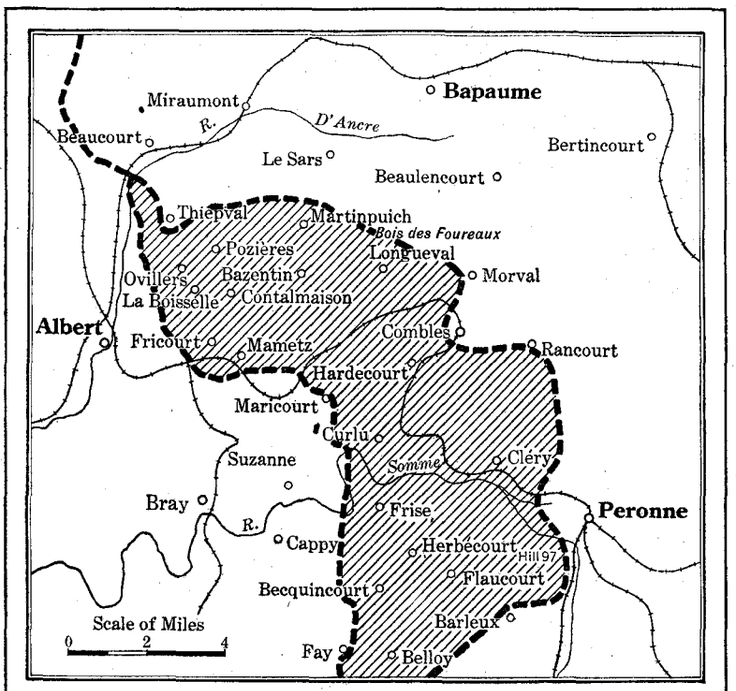
TOPICS - OF - THE - DAY

BRITAIN'S "SUPER-DREADNOUGHTS OF THE LAND"

THE FAMOUS "CHEESEBOX ON A RAFT" that revolutionized naval warfare may have its land counterpart, editorial observers are noting, in the new British traveling forts, or land-monitors, nicknamed "tanks" and "Willies" by the "Tommies." These novel engines of war made their dramatic first appearance on September 15 on the Somme front, when, advancing calmly across trenches and shell-craters, through wire entanglements and stone walls, they led the infantry in an attack which pierced the German third line of defense and administered what General Haig characterizes as "probably the most effective blow that has yet been dealt the enemy by the British troops." Altho only casually mentioned in the official bulletin of that day's fighting as "a new type of heavy-armored car which proved to be of considerable utility," in the unofficial reports they come in for a wealth of allusion that is almost as vague as it is picturesque. Thus these new juggernauts, which, as one editor remarks, "have all the earmarks of having burst full into the fray out of the pages of Mr. H. G. Wells or Mr. Jules Verne," are variously described as land-dreadnoughts and mobile fortresses, and are compared to "steel tortoises," "prehistoric monsters," and "toads of vast size." "They knock down trees like match-sticks," we are told; "they go clean through a wood; they cut up houses and walk right over them; they stamp down dugouts like wasps' nests, and climb the barricades like elephants." Their gait is generally described as a waddle, but in some accounts they crawl, walk, and "lollop." According to German reports, the "cruelty" of these monsters "is equaled by their efficiency." They caused, General Haig reports, "indescribable demoralization in the enemy's ranks."



WHERE THE "TANKS" FIRST WENT INTO ACTION.

But most of this gain was made without their help. The shaded area shows the ground captured by the French and British from July 1, when the Somme offensive was launched, to and including September 15, when the new British war-engines took the field at dawn, causing, says General Haig, "indescribable demoralization in the enemy's ranks."

The British soldiers, one correspondent tells us, charged beside the new fighting-machines "in the greatest good humor, laughing as they ran."

"In one short hour," says a correspondent of the London *Times*, "the 'tanks' did more military service, killed more of the enemy, and had a greater influence on the war than all the *Zeppelins*." And he predicts that before the war is over both sides will be building "other monsters, each huger and each more horrible than the last, until there will be battles of whole fleets of land-dreadnoughts and terrestrial monitors."

"When the secrecy which rightly surrounds the construction and use of this most recent addition to our fighting-machines can be lifted," remarks the same London paper, "we may perhaps be enabled to imagine the feelings of the German infantry in shell-battered trenches when, in the uncertain light of dawn, they saw advancing upon them an array of unearthly monsters, cased in steel and spitting fire." And a dispatch from the Somme front declares that "there has been nothing more wonderful in the war than the

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spectacle of this advance." Said a captured German officer to an Associated Press correspondent:

"There was no standing against that sort of thing. Of course we surrendered—those of us who were alive. We fired at a tank with our rifles. Our machine guns turned loose on it. But the bullets were only blue sparks on the armor. We thought the British slow and stupid, despite their courage and stubbornness, and they gave us a surprize like this!"

At some points in the attack of September 15, we are told, British aeroplanes cooperated with the infantry and the tanks by flying low and firing into the German trenches. "The scene," says the London *Evening Star*, "when the huge steel monsters charged the barbed wire and vast birds flew along

SOMME LION!

—Harding in the Brooklyn *Eagle*.

the German trenches, must have recalled the terrors of prehistoric man when dinosaurs and pterodactyls assailed his primitive cave-dwelling." Yet so grotesque, it seems, is the appearance of these mechanical Molochs of the battle-field that, despite their terrible effectiveness, they "tickled the risibilities of all ranks," and even many German prisoners "began laughing when recalling the first glimpse of them." "It was like a fairy-tale," said a cockney boy wounded as he charged beside one of these cars; "I can't help laughing every time I think of it." According to a London dispatch to the New York *Tribune* they are an adaptation of the caterpillar tractor so familiar on our Western prairies. Says the London *Daily Mail:*

"These long, low, dust-covered tortoises have no resemblance to motor-cars. They are, in fact, steel land-ships of immense power and wonderful capacity. In practise they can climb walls, push through dense woods, cross trenches, and maneuver in and out of craters. One of the most remarkable facts about them is the secrecy with which the making of their thousands of parts was veiled in the Midland town of their birth. The army likes them, but it is not placing too much reliance on what is for the present only an experiment.

"One of the monsters charged a house. There was a whir of shells, a grinding crash, and all that was left of the structure was a few splintered parts."

And from the London *Evening Standard* we learn further that—

"England's latest weapon of war is nothing more nor less than a huge land-ship, fully armored and capable of traveling at fair speed over the shell-battered and cratered terrane of Picardy. Designed, as they are, to traverse the most difficult country and to sweep away all obstacles in their path, they naturally are of fairly large size, with caterpillar wheels constructed to cover the widest trench or shell-hole and to enable the vehicle to tackle almost any depth of mire. Their crews are protected by varying numbers of armored plates, any one of which is impervious to machine-gun or rifle-fire as well as shrapnel-bullets, and it is asserted that only a direct hit from a gun of large caliber could put one of these monsters out of commission.

"While from a defensive point of view they are almost perfect, their offensive qualities are even superior, and when they have cleared a trench of the enemy or have forced the survivors into the shelter of their dugouts, these land-ships—'tanks,' as the Tommies prefer to call them—have another little surprize in store for the beaten enemy, about which perhaps it were wise not to say more.

"Most of the great engineering works in England can claim a share in the production of these armored cars. They are built in parts at different factories in order to preserve the secret of their construction, and they are then assembled at a central factory under the supervision of experts of the armored-car division."

Some of the exploits of this new engine in the advance which the soldiers have nicknamed "the tank offensive" are narrated by a writer in the London *Daily News:*

"One whose steering-gear got out of order couldn't turn to the right or left, so it trundled straight ahead until quite out of touch with the infantry, then sat down on a German trench, and for five hours withstood bomb attacks.

"In another case the land-ship found the infantry was not coming on behind, so it went back to find out what was the matter. They were held up by a trench which the tank had overlooked, where a strong bomb party of Germans were situated. So the machine walked over to the trench, deposited itself on top of it and wiped the bomb party out.

"One tank is known to have put out of action six German machine guns in a single position Another wandered around for hours, nosing out German machine-gun positions in shell-holes about the open, and dealing with them firmly when found.

"Another, after rendering yeoman service in the operations in High Wood, went on to what it thought was our front trench and then discovered it was a German one. It came back shortly afterward with twenty-five German prisoners, who walked beside it like a flock of sheep, cowed by its machine guns.

"Another cleaned out a German machine-gun post in a shell-hole, and then one of the gunners of the crew got out and took charge of a German gun and stayed there to use it against its former owners.

"They have proved themselves real and formidable engines of war, and a new service has been created: his Majesty's land navy."

Philip Gibbs, in a dispatch to the New York *Times*, tells how one of these tanks, bearing the incongruous name of "Crème de Menthe," captured the fortified ruins of a sugar-factory south-east of Courcelette:

"It advanced upon a broken wall, leaned up against it heavily until it fell with a crash of bricks, and then rose on to the bricks and passed over them and walked straight into the midst of the factory ruins. From its sides came flashes of fire and a host of bullets, and then it trampled around over the machine-gun emplacement, 'having a grand time,' as one of the men said with enthusiasm. It crushed the machine guns under its heavy ribs and killed the machine-gun teams with its deadly fire. The infantry followed in and took the place after this good help, and then advanced again around the flanks of the monster."

Credit for the adoption of this new weapon, says David Lloyd-George, is due to Winston Spencer Churchill, the former First Lord of the Admiralty, more than to any one else. He, it seems, "took up with enthusiasm the idea of making them a long time ago, and met with many difficulties" before he succeeded in converting the proper authorities. In a London dispatch to the Boston *Transcript*, Mr. Lloyd-George is further quoted as saying: "Major Stern, business man at the Ministry of Muni-

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tions, had charge of the work of getting them built, and he did the task very well. Colonel Swinton (of the Intelligence Department of the General Staff) and others also did valuable work."

In these perambulating batteries, these crawling things that spit death from behind impregnable armor, England, remarks the Philadelphia *Press*, "has added a formidable new weapon to the technique of modern warfare." And the Cleveland *Plain Dealer* notes that they are "perhaps the first wholly original device of the Allies, the first offering of the Entente to the new science of war." But these tanks, we are told, are "mounted on four caterpillar tractors," and these tractors are claimed as an American invention. Mr. M. M. Baker, vice-president of the Holt Manufacturing Company, of Peoria, Ill., says that he has supplied a thousand or more of these "caterpillars" to the British Government. From Mr. Baker a Washington correspondent of the New York *Times* gathered the following interesting information:

"Mr. Baker said the tractors sent to England weigh about 18,000 pounds each, develop 120 horse-power, and are built of steel. The caterpillar feature, he explained, is of the utmost importance. Speaking broadly, the tractor crawls on two belts, with corrugated surfaces, on either side of the body. The corrugated surface is on the ground. On the inside of the belts, on each side of the body, are two lines of steel rails, making four lines in all. These rails are in short sections, jointed, and operate over a cogged mechanism that actually lays them down with their belt attachment as the tractor moves ahead and picks them up again, so that the car runs on its own self-made track continuously. The short joints in the rails make it easy to turn to right or left.

"The body is supported by trucks with five wheels, something like small railroad trucks. These wheels never touch the ground, but run upon the steel rails. In the ordinary tractor about seven feet of belt and rails is on the ground at one time.

"Mr. Baker said that the machine would bridge any trench that was not wider than the length of track it laid on the ground at one time. The 'bow' might hit the far side of the trench far below the top, and the 'stern' would undoubtedly sink a little, but the tenacity of the tractor, he declared, would enable it to go ahead and climb out.

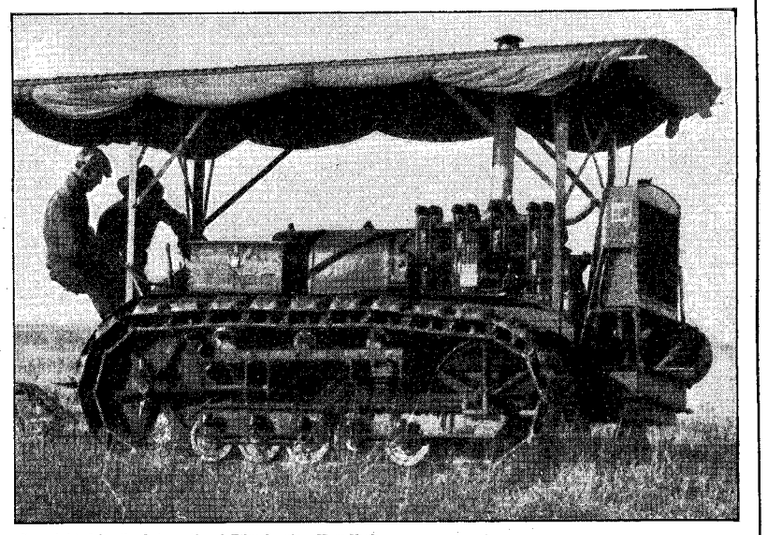
"The width of track used on the machines sent to England, Mr. Baker said, was 24 inches. He declared that the ground pressure is about three pounds per square inch where a 30-inch track is used, or less than that of the foot of either man or horse. He suggested that the British authorities probably had lengthened the track on the tractors used in trench-work, giving them even greater power to surmount obstacles."

Thus in the absence of a denial from the British Government, remarks the Brooklyn *Eagle*, it would seem that the newest monster to which war has given birth "is merely a metamorphosed American farm-tractor of the caterpillar type." "If so," adds the Brooklyn paper—

"It is one more important contribution that this country has made to the fighting equipment of the European belligerents. To the submarine, the aeroplane, the telephone, the electric light, the Lewis machine gun, and numerous other inventions, is added this new engine of destruction. As in the case of other inventions, the Europeans have taken the American idea and developed it to suit their purpose, but the fact remains that we have given the Old World most of the machines with which they are now destroying each other."

Turning from the subject of these new battle-engines to the question of the present status of the great conflict of which they are a part, we find the New York *Evening Post* affirming that it is now "a contest between men and square miles." "During the first sixteen months of the war Germany accumulated a vast reserve of conquered territory," while, beginning somewhat later, "the Allies have been accumulating a vast reserve of fighting men." Therefore, "when Bethmann-Hollweg referred the Allies to the war-map as a basis of peace he knew well enough what the Allies' reply must be—that they had the men to revise the map in the course of time." And of late, as *The Evening Post* sees it, "in the matching of area against battalions it is the battalions that have been winning." For "at the beginning of the year the conquests of the Central Powers were to the conquests of the Allies as 7 to 1; but to-day they are only as 3 to 1." To quote further:

"Even as a matter of balancing territorial conquests against each other, the situation to-day is notably different from what it was at the beginning of the present year. Precise estimates are difficult, but as near as may be this is how the two sides now stand:



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WAS THE NEW WAR-MONSTER EVOLVED FROM THIS?

It is generally believed that the "caterpillar" principle illustrated in this farm-tractor is what makes possible the almost incredible feats attributed to the new British juggernaut, which, some observers predict, will revolutionize land warfare.

Central Powers	*Square Miles*
Belgium	11,075
France	9,170
Italy	100
Poland	49,130
Russia	57,500
Servia	33,900
Montenegro	5,600
Albania	11,000
Dobrudja	3,200
Total	180,675

The Allies	*Square Miles*
Alsace	125
Austria:	
To Italy	700
Bukowina	4,000
Galicia	9,000
Transylvania	7,500
Turkey:	
Asia Minor	30,000
Mesopotamia	10,000
Total	61,325

"This does not include the German colonies, all of which are virtually in the hands of the Allies—in extent about a million square miles, but obviously not at all commensurate in importance with area conquered in Europe and Asia.

"The outstanding fact is that, of the enormous Teuton conquests of 180,000 square miles, less than 3,500 square miles represent the profits for the year 1916. Belgium, France, Russia, Servia, Montenegro, and Albania were gathered in before Christmas of 1915. The gains this year have been something less than 100 square miles around Verdun, about 100 square miles by the Austrians in northern Italy, and about 3,200 square miles to the credit of Mackensen's present operations in the Dobrudja. Out of the Allied total of something more than 60,000 square miles, more than 40,000 square miles have been acquired in the present year, about equally divided between Austria and Turkey."

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PROGRESSIVE LEAVEN IN THE REPUBLICAN LUMP

THE FRIGHTFUL SPECTACLE of the Republican party abandoning itself "to rancid reaction" is being held up by Democratic orators and pro-Wilson Progressives to impress those one-time fighters at Armageddon who are still hesitating between Hughes and Wilson. "There they all are—the Old Guard!" cries Bainbridge Colby, who is

G. O. P.—"It's a big relief to know nothing serious has happened to him."

—Darling in the Des Moines *Register and Leader*.

supporting the Democratic national ticket, and he names Cannon, Penrose, Smoot, Crane, and the rest, asking "what business a Progressive has in such company." These men, we are told, "are the pickets and the monitors of privilege. Hughes is only their decoy and retriever." But, says the St. Paul *Dispatch* (Ind.), recent Republican primaries have shown that "while the 'Old Guard' may control conventions, it can not muster enough support at the polls to carry through its program." Indeed, declares the influential Kansas City *Star* (Prog.), if Progressives have come back to the "fold," the results in a number of State primaries "seem to show that they have brought their leaders with them and have compelled the 'fold' to accept them." As *The Star* tells the story:

"In California, Governor Johnson won the Republican nomination for Senator, and the Governor probably has been as far out of the Republican breastworks as any Progressive in the country—he was outside and throwing bombs in. In Maine, the Republicans elected to the Senate Frederick Hale, who is identified with the Progressive wing of the party. Washington Republicans renominated Senator Poindexter, who forsook the party four years ago, over Representative Humphrey, who never forsook it. Poindexter was a national leader in the Progressive fight and took his Progressive principles with him when he went before the Republicans of his State for renomination.

"Also in the forefront of Progressivism was Medill McCormick, of Illinois. Running in the primary as a Republican, he leads the field for the nomination for Congressman at large. La Follette has again won in Wisconsin. In Minnesota, while Senator Clapp, Progressive, was defeated for renomination, the victor was Frank B. Kellogg, a strong Roosevelt adherent. . . . . .

"These results go to prove what has so often been said, that the Progressives gained the only permanent victory ever recorded in American politics, having elected their ideas. These having been accepted more or less by all parties, Progressive leadership is now coming to the front in the party that four years ago preferred defeat to yielding to it.

"The Progressives have principles that they are willing to fight for. Now that they are largely returning to the Republican party, they are taking up the fight where they left off in 1912 to make it the Progressive-Republican party."

Reasoning Progressives are only amused, says the Chicago *Tribune* (Prog. Rep.), when Democratic campaigners tell them "that the party which the Progressives have reconstructed is unfit to meet the demands of the sentiment which Progressives created."

Frederick M. Davenport, the former Progressive candidate for Governor of New York, writing for *The Outlook* on the effects of Mr. Hughes's campaign in the West, is led to ask the question: "Don't you see that the wave of Republican liberalism has got started again all over the West?" As Mr. Davenport sees it—

"The most significant thing about the rejuvenation of Republicanism in the real West—that is, in the Mountain and Pacific Coast States—is that the party in that section of the United States, in spite of the momentary political bewilderment which besets the whole country, is irrevocably committed to further and rapid political advance. The clouds of reaction that were clearly on the horizon after the election of 1914 are passing away. The greater part of the States through which we have passed have long been for the most part naturally Republican States, and the furnace power of the party is still here. It was the attempt of the Old Guardsmen of the party in the East in 1910 and 1912 to slow down the machinery by throwing in a monkey-wrench, by the employment of reactionary sabotage, that wrought the Republican havoc and destruction of these later years. And the Hughes tour through the West has brought to light so many evidences of the rising tide of Republican liberalism in the midst of the process of party reconstruction now going on there that the wayfaring man, tho a fool, need not err in discerning that the only hope of national Republican peace and success lies in the determination upon the part of the Republican leaders and States of the East to accept generously the spirit of liberalism, and aid in guiding it into deep and useful channels of national progress. Any other course now will injure the Republican party beyond recovery."

This Progressive-Republican observer believes Hiram Johnson "destined to become the Republican leader of the Pacific Coast." He tells, too, how North Dakota farmers got together and defeated the organization candidate for Governor in the Republican primaries. Even Utah, which, like Vermont, went for Taft in 1912, "is on the verge of being one of the most Progressive commonwealths in the Union." For "the Republican candidate who won in the primaries the nomination for Governor this year was the Progressive nominee for Governor in 1912—a Mormon ecclesiastic, a 'stake' president with ten or fifteen bishops under him, a progressive of progressives." "Keep your eye on Montana," is Mr. Davenport's advice, and we note in the Helena *Independent* (Dem.) that the Progressive leaders and their followers have not only "come back," but "they have taken over what was the Republican party in this State."

Then, too, in the news items from Republican headquarters, men like George W. Perkins and Raymond Robins seem to figure as prominently as those men who brought about the Hughes nomination, and we even hear of an invitation to Governor Johnson to take the stump against Wilson in the East. Even more remarkable is the amount of Republican campaign news which appears under the Oyster Bay date-line. Colonel Roosevelt is expected to follow up his notable Maine speech with even more vigorous utterances in other States. There are two definite reasons, says the New York *Sun* (Rep.), for asking Mr. Roosevelt to take a larger part in the campaign: "One is the fact that his word is powerful with the Progressives. The other is found in his peculiar fitness to state clearly and vividly for all the public the issues of the campaign." The Denver *Rocky Mountain News* (Prog. Rep.) similarly observes that "it was necessary for the Republican party that Colonel Roosevelt should have come in to clarify the greater issues of this campaign." "Roosevelt is the tonic of the season," remarks

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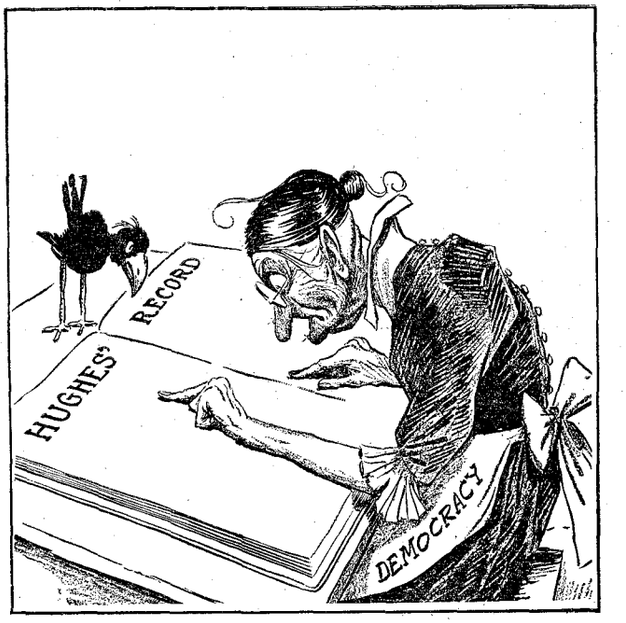
WORKING BOTH SIDES OF THE STREET.

—Kirby in the New York *World*.



"OH, FOR ONE LITTLE CROOKED MARK!"

—May in the Cleveland *Leader*.

HARD AT IT.

the Boston *Journal* (Ind.). Mr. Hughes's fight, it thinks, "is going to depend to no mean extent upon the Roosevelt voice"—

"The election of Hughes may be a Roosevelt triumph. Roosevelt, who defeated the party in 1912, may perform a personal rescue act this year. That would be a graceful ending of the Progressive chapter in our political history.

"And as Roosevelt advances into the thick of the campaign, he builds Roosevelt as well as Republican strength. The old enthusiasm can come back, and back so far that the Progressive irreconcilables, who now teeter between Wilson and nobody, will be the merest handful by November 7."

"In their desperation to beat Wilson," says the Knoxville *Sentinel* (Dem.), the "Old Guard" will "welcome the most strenuous efforts of T. R. to help them, even at the cost of making him, after all, the dominant figure of the Administration." "A very interesting situation," it seems to the Columbia *State* (Dem.)—

"If Hughes is elected, why T. R. did it. If not, why it will only show that the failure to nominate the Colonel in the first place was fatal.

"If Hughes is elected, then the Colonel will be the power behind the throne or know the reason why."

If the Colonel, says another Democratic daily—the Birmingham *Age Herald*—"moved by the gloomy situation, infuses life into the Hughes campaign, he would be a near-President, at least, in the event of Hughes's election. And that would be an improvement on Barnes, Penrose, or Crane." Not in the opinion of the New York *World* (Dem.), however, which says in its editorial on "A Roosevelt Receivership for Hughes":

"A Roosevelt receivership for the Hughes campaign has become necessary, and the Hughes managers have shown good sense in accepting it. The campaign is bankrupt morally and politically, and if Mr. Roosevelt can not put it back on its feet nobody can. . . . . .

"Mr. Roosevelt put Mr. Taft over on the country in 1908, and the business of trying to put Mr. Hughes over ought to prove equally amusing. If the country wants a repetition of the Taft Administration, it has only to follow Mr. Roosevelt. If it wants another proxy President, Mr. Hughes is the man."

Republican leaders, so the independent New York *Evening Post* observes, "apparently feel that the gain in Progressive votes from a Roosevelt stumping-tour will much more than offset the ill-will certain to be aroused among the old-line Republicans by pushing the Colonel to the front." Commenting on the latter point, *The Evening Post* notes that Mr. Hughes's friends naturally expected that in a "harmony year" "Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Hughes would shake hands and stand together in the fight, but they were not prepared to have the candidate make himself second fiddle to Roosevelt." And we read further:

"This is the more extraordinary when one considers the attitude of the Republican Convention which nominated Mr. Hughes. If there ever were determined anti-Roosevelt men, they were the delegates who stood fast against the Colonel's blandishments. They remembered that he was the man who tried so ardently in 1912 and 1914 to wreck the Republican party, who has repeatedly declared that it was corrupt and dying, already practically dead and certain to stay dead because it was without any elements of decency and respectability. They were less concerned about Mr. Hughes than about making it clear that the Republican party was through with Rooseveltism once and for all. How must they now feel? They were eager, of course, for a united party; they are doubtless glad to know that Mr. Roosevelt has abandoned the Progressive party, has forgotten that he swore eternal fidelity to that party, and that he will go on the stump for them. But they certainly can not be pleased by the prospect of his becoming the dominating figure of the campaign, or by Mr. Hughes's blanket indorsement of all of Mr. Roosevelt's peculiar views."

The Democratic press are not unmindful of the effect that Mr. Roosevelt's prominence in the Republican campaign may have upon the German-American vote. The Chattanooga *News* warns "so-called German-Americans" that "if Roosevelt is to be supreme in Republican councils the Republican party will not be disposed to be fair to Germany." The Brooklyn *Citizen* notes predictions in the German-American press that "Roosevelt's speeches will drive votes away from Hughes." But the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, a veteran observer of political campaigns, does not think this worries Mr. Hughes overmuch—

"No doubt, as a 100 per cent. candidate, he thinks it good strategy to have his Teddy-bears lambasting the hyphenates and Wilson and whooping it up for Hughes at one end of the line, while the hyphenates themselves, with their organs and spokesmen, are lambasting Wilson and whooping it up for Hughes at the other end. With the Teddy-bears jumping on the hyphenates and Wilson and boosting Hughes, while the hyphenates at the same time jump on Wilson and boost Hughes, why should he trouble himself to learn to articulate 'German-American?'"

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BETTERMENT IN MEXICO

HOW "ANY TERMS looking to the establishment of peace in Mexico" can be made by the commissioners at New London "until Villa is out of the way" is something the Philadelphia *Press* and several other dailies can not see. Unquestionably, admits the New York *Evening Post*, a consistent supporter of President Wilson's "watchful waiting" policy, "there can be no solution of Mexico's troubles until Carranza's authority is established along the border." But, it continues, "the ability of a raiding bandit chieftain to make trouble is not a true index of the progress made by the Constitutionalist Government in the pacification of the country as a whole," and "the troubles on the border have obscured what seems to be a fact, that Carranza's authority has been established in central and southern Mexico." At New London, Mr. Cabrera, one of the Mexican commission, a few days ago laid before the conferees a statement showing the stability of the Carranza Government. After tracing the history of the Carranza revolution from its beginning until it controlled the coast-lines and the greater part of the interior of the country, the statement continued, as summarized for the press:

NOT A CENT
PLEASE HELP A NOBLE MEXICAN PATRIOT IN REDUCED CIRCUMSTANCES
TO A TRIFLING LOAN OF $ 150,000,000 KIND SIR
MEXICAN BORDER
CARRANZA

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NOTHING DOING!

—Morgan in the Philadelphia *Inquirer*.

"With this control once secured, General Carranza immediately addrest himself to the problem of organizing civil government in the states under his control. His purpose has been to accustom the people as soon as possible to the orderly procedure of civil rule and to limit to as great an extent as possible the more arbitrary methods of military government. At the present moment civil governors have been installed in ten states, and in the territory of Lower California. The states possessing such civil organizations are: Sonora, Coahuila, Neuvo Leon, Tamaulipas, Sinaloa, Hidalgo, Vera Cruz, State of Mexico, Mexico City (Federal District), Morelos, Territory of Lower California."

Mr. Cabrera also outlined General Carranza's plans for the civil reorganization of Mexico. More light was thrown on these plans by reports from Mexico City of several decrees issued by the Provisional President. This news, in the Boston *Post's* opinion, proves "more than anything that has come out of Mexico for a long time that the affairs of the troubled country are actually looking up." One decree makes provision for the election of a national congress, the other for the election of a constitutional assembly on the 15th of October. As we read in the Mexico City dispatches, "business sessions will begin on December 1 and will be limited to two months. As soon as a constitution is adopted a Presidential election will be arranged and the assembly will be dissolved."

And this political reorganization "is only one of the symptoms of better times," as the Boston paper remarks. The Philadelphia *Record* is convinced that "the rehabilitation of commerce in Mexico has begun and has advanced to a considerable degree." Optimism on this point is partially justified by the reports made by the Mexican Commission, at New London, regarding the present condition of the Mexican railroads. An official summary sent out from New London presents the following facts:

"Mr. Pani, who is also director-general of the railway lines of Mexico, in a statement, says the Carranza Government, at the time when Villa was at the height of his power, controlled less than 2,000 miles out of the 13,000 miles of railways in operation in the whole country. When the Carranza Government was recognized in October, 1915, the mileage under Carranza's control had increased to about 10,000 miles, and much effort was being expended to the repair of the system in order to make it available for regular operation.

"At the present moment the Carranza Government is in control and is operating the entire 8,000 miles of the Government lines, as well as operating about 2,000 miles belonging to private companies. In addition, the *de facto* Government has turned over the Mexican Railway and the Southern Pacific systems to their respective owners. In short, about 12,000 out of a total of 13,000 miles are to-day in operation either directly by the Government or private companies.

"In January, 1915, the total income of the Government lines was 647,000 pesos (paper currency). At the time the Carranza Government was in Vera Cruz, and Villa and Zapata were in control of Mexico City. The monthly income had advanced to 3,000,000 pesos (paper currency), in October, 1915, the date of recognition of the Carranza Government. Since then the monthly income has steadily increased until in August, 1916, it reached 25,000,000 pesos (paper currency). The tonnage of freight at present is virtually the same as in 1912. All this has been accomplished in spite of a shortage of rolling stock.

"While in October, 1915, at the time of recognition, there was a monthly deficit of from 2,000,000 to 3,000,000 pesos in the operation of the lines under the immediate control of the Carranza Government, at the present moment the receipts are sufficient to meet operating expenses, and there is a surplus, which is devoted to the repair of the lines. In August, 1916, the income from the Government lines was virtually the same as the income during the years 1911 and 1913."

No less encouraging are the facts with regard to Mexico's foreign commerce, which the New York *Evening Post* thus gathers from recent news-dispatches:

"During the two years marked by the fall of Madero, the elimination of Huerta, and the strife between Carranza and Villa, our exports declined to a low figure of thirty-four millions in 1915, but our imports continued to grow. For the fiscal year ending last June our exports to Mexico were forty-eight million dollars, or almost as high as they were in 1910, and our imports rose to ninety-eight million dollars, or almost twice as high as the average for the last five years of Diaz. If we take the total for Mexico's commerce with this country, the record shows a steady growth during all the years of revolution, with the exception of 1915; and for 1916 it showed an increase of nearly 35 per cent. over 1906.

"Here, then, is plain evidence that the productive life of the Mexican people is not as utterly demoralized as popular impression in this country would have it."

But before much real progress can be made toward the financial rehabilitation of Mexico, the New York *Times* remarks, "the raiding fever must be cured and peaceable conditions restored in the north." General Bell's dispatches from El Paso have given details of the manner in which Villa attacked, captured, and evacuated Chihuahua at will, and the apparent inability of a large Carranza garrison to interfere with the bandit chieftain's plans. As a *Times* Washington correspondent points out, this raid has an important bearing on the negotiations with Carranza's representatives—

"If General Trevino, with 4,000 men, is unable to prevent such an attack, and Villa, as prior to the Columbus raid, is able to move leisurely about Chihuahua State, attacking towns, murdering Americans, . . . it will be difficult for the Administration to bring the Pershing expedition out of Mexico."

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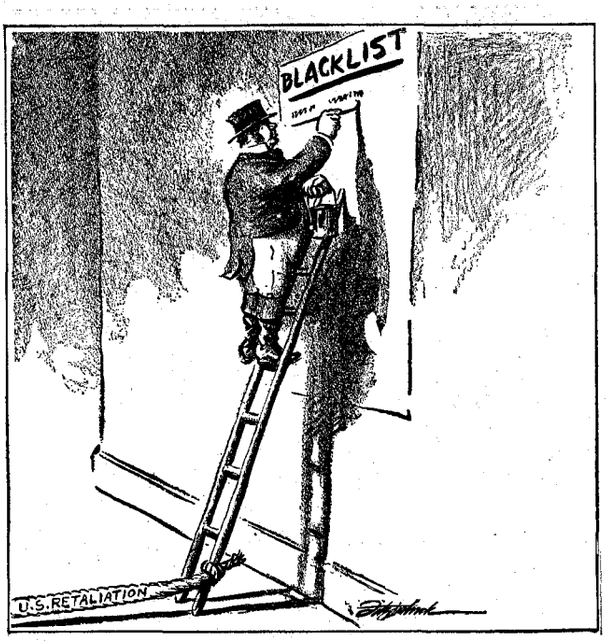
BRITISH CENSORSHIP OF OUR TRADE

DESPITE THE NEW POWERS of retaliation with which Congress armed President Wilson just before it adjourned, the British Government, it seems, has decided still further to hamper with arbitrary restrictions the free movement of American commerce. An Associated Press dispatch from London informs us that "the plan of rationing the neutral countries of Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Holland, under which no further licenses will be granted for the present to British exporters, has been extended to apply to the United States by the expedients of refusing to allow the Netherlands Oversea Trust to accept further American consignments and by declining to grant letters of assurance for American shipments destined for these countries." In consequence of this move, we learn from the same source, "American shipments for Holland will be stopt absolutely, while the regular transportation companies trading between the United States and Scandinavia will not take cargoes without assurances of their innocent destination by the British authorities." This is somewhat modified by a cablegram to the Department of Commerce from Consul-General Skinner, at London, stating that the new embargo applies only to certain specified commodities, including, however, such staples as meat, lard, tea, coffee, canned goods, rice, and starch. "The articles mentioned," Mr. Skinner explains, "are those which have been supplied to the countries concerned in quantities alleged to exceed the normal requirements of such countries," and the prohibition is to be in effect "until October 1, or until further notice by the British Government." The statement that the new orders apply only to certain prohibited articles and not to Dutch and Scandinavian trade in general is confirmed by Lord Robert Cecil, British Minister of War-Trade. In a London dispatch to the New York *Journal of Commerce*, we read:

"Great Britain has forbidden the export of various articles to European neutrals on the ground that they have already received in the first seven months of this year more than an ordinary year's supply. Lord Robert said it was not logical to forbid such exports from Great Britain and to permit them from America and other neutral sources.

"Lord Robert explained that one neutral nation, taking normally 18,000 tons of coffee, in seven months of this year already has imported 50,000 tons, so all further imports of coffee to that country a e looked upon as likely to reach an enemy destination. The list of prohibited articles, he said, varies with different countries according to what they already had imported, all allowances being made for imports formerly made to German ports."



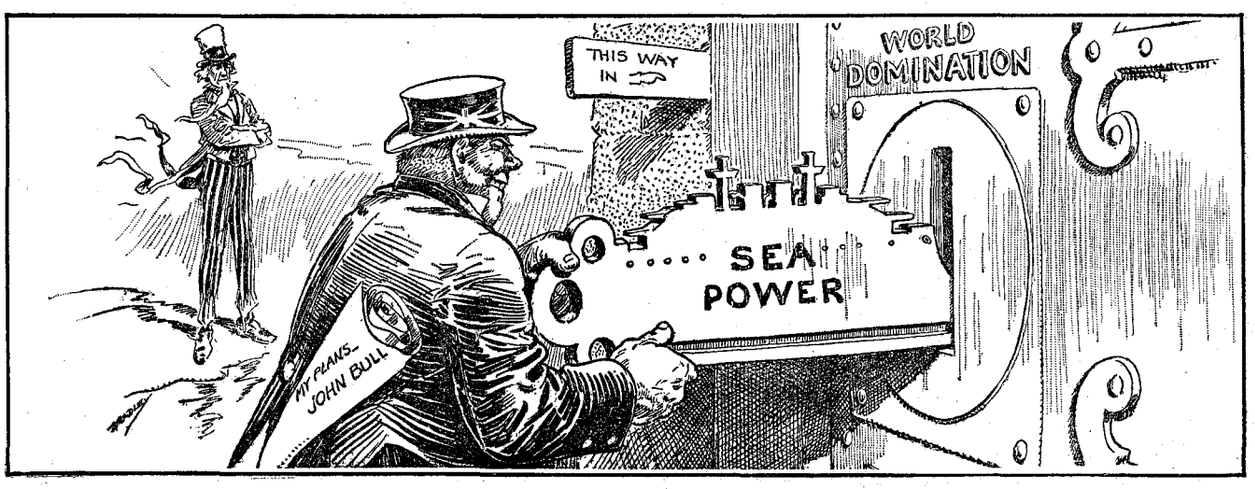
LOOK OUT, JOHN!

—Fitzpatrick in the St. Louis *Post Dispatch*.

This new interference, according to a Washington correspondent of the New York *World*, has added to the "growing irritation in official circles over the numerous issues pending between the American and British Governments"; and this irritation is unmistakably reflected in the press. "It was a sorry day for the United States when it failed to put a stop to the first attempt to encroach upon its rights as a neutral," says the Washington *Post*, which adds: "Every month since that time has witnessed further encroachment, with the result that the United States can not now burst the ties that bind it without suffering great losses." "As there is no law for the British proceedings, there is no reason why we should not speak of them in tones audible in Downing Street," declares the Philadelphia *Record*, and the Milwaukee *Sentinel* discusses the situation in the following words:

"The most recent order of the British Government limits the amount of foodstuffs that may be imported by the neutral nations of Holland, Denmark, Sweden, and Norway to an amount which British officials estimate is the normal consumption of those countries. The European neutrals are told how much they may buy and other neutral nations how little they can sell. There will be no real pretense made that this is not a gross violation of the rights of all neutral nations. Thus to interfere with the commerce of a friendly people is an act which can rightly be considered hostile. The old plea of military necessity will reappear, but the plea is getting worn out. Great Britain's Ministers are simply losing their heads.

"Peace is an inestimably valuable thing, trade is a valuable



HIS PRIVATE KEY.

—Bradley in the Chicago *Daily News*.

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thing. Neither is a compensation to a free people for their sovereignty. That is a thing the British Government seems to have lost sight of when it proposes to substitute its needs and purposes for international law. It has reckoned long on the indignation in this country at the taking of American lives by its enemies. But it is not reckoning well when it takes the assurance of certain pro-Ally organs and spokesmen in this country who assure it that America will never express its resentment in tangible acts. The recent so-called retaliatory measures are not meaningless, nor is the spirit that animated a certain Boston tea-party dead. But these measures are only the beginning of the resources short of war that this country holds in its hand. Great Britain has forgotten this, that when a sentiment gets started in this country it grows mighty fast, and when it gets into action it does not stop with eradicating the latest offense, but goes a whole lot deeper.

"It is not for the good of the world; it can never be argued that it is for the advance of civilization that one nation should lay down the law for the government of all other nations. Real friends of Great Britain who have not quite lost their heads could very well become extremely busy warning that nation that there is a limit to aggression against friendly nations."

The new British orders, declares the Chicago *Herald*, constitute "the most comprehensive interference with trade between neutrals yet undertaken." Our rights in the case are thus defined by the New York *Evening Mail:*

"Great Britain's reason for this action is said to be the fear that some of our goods are going through these neutral countries to Germany. That may be true. If it is, such transit trade is wholly within our rights. Our State Department denies that the Allies are maintaining a lawful blockade of Germany. The main ground for the denial is the fact that the Allies can not interpose a blockade on the seas between Sweden and Germany; and if Sweden can not be barred, we must not be.

"Therefore, our diplomacy contends, we have the right to ship to Germany, direct, everything but contraband of war. Mr. Lansing further says that, even were it to be admitted that the present blockade were lawful, effective, and impartial, still Great Britain may not lawfully stop our non-contraband shipments to Germany *via* neutral countries. Neutral countries can not be blockaded, under international law, which further provides that Great Britain has no right to apply the law of 'ultimate destination' to anything but contraband shipments moving through a neutral to a blockaded belligerent country."

It will be the mission of the United States, affirms the St. Louis *Star*, "to see that the right of free commerce is restored," and—

"that can only be done by taking a stand—and with power behind the stand—for a world federation guaranteeing the rights of all nations, small and great, on land and sea. Is the United States ready to lead in the work of organizing force so that it shall protect rights and preserve equities instead of submerging them? That is the great world-problem of the present time."

We have searched the American press in vain for any outright defense of Britain's latest interference with American commerce, but in the New York *Tribune* we find the following explanation of the move:

"Since the beginning of last year all exports from Great Britain have been consigned to the Netherlands Oversea Trust, which is empowered to impose fines on Dutch merchants convicted of exporting illicit goods to Germany. In this manner, about $400,000 is said to have been collected last year, showing that the traffic with Germany was not inconsiderable. One of the complaints in England is that inasmuch as the money remains in Holland the Dutch lose nothing even if breaches of the agreement are detected, whereas if they are undetected the profits must undoubtedly be enormous.

"This is only one example of the kind of criticism heard in England with regard to the agreements entered into with traders in neutral countries. The enormous increase in food exports from Holland to Germany has been a constant grievance. Figures have frequently been published showing, as one British critic puts it, 'that Holland, which supplied us with food in peace, has deserted us in war and taken to feeding Germany instead.' The obvious explanation is that the Dutch producers and merchants, in war as in peace, sell to the highest bidder, and that as meat, butter, cheese, eggs, and other foods command much higher prices at present in Germany than in the United Kingdom, these commodities go, of course, in greater quantities to Germany.

"It is idle to expect sentiment to govern transactions of this sort, especially since the prices for foodstuffs consumed at home have been regulated by the Dutch Government. But the manifest impossibility of checking imports by such arrangements accounts undoubtedly for the latest action of the British Government."

TOPICS IN BRIEF

EUROPE has no State of Maine to show how everything has to come out.—*Chicago Daily News.*

CANDIDATE Hughes now realizes that a stump is not as comfortable as a bench.—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

GREECE has managed to place herself in a position in which only three courses of action are possible, any one of which promises to be disastrous.—*New York Sun.*

MR. WILSON is letting the women know that he wants their vote in November just as much as Mr. Hughes does.—*St. Louis Globe Democrat.*

THE bakers now want to give us a short loaf, just as we have escaped the danger of having the railroad men take a long one.—*Nashville Southern Lumberman.*

ENGLAND continues to pick on us in a most annoying manner. Now they've gone and passed a law forbidding British actors from returning to London.—*New York Telegraph.*

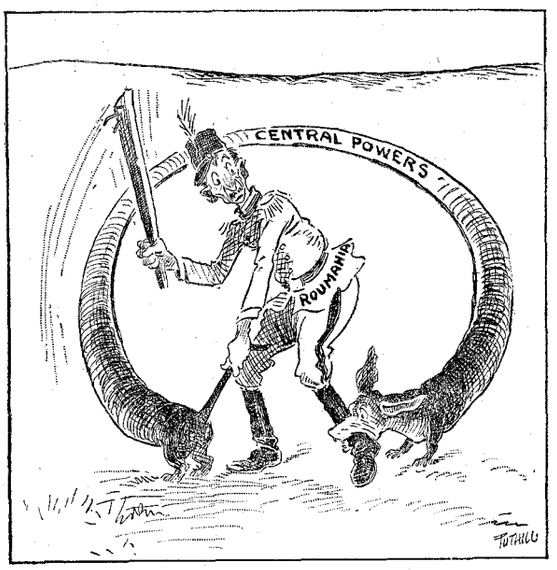
GERMAN papers, are attacking our Ambassador, Gerard. Was he indiscreet enough to publish an advertisement telling German citizens that they must keep off the seas?—*Philadelphia North American.*

FORMER Governor Pennypacker, of Pennsylvania, who died recently, carried a silver dollar in his pockets for fifty-five years. Considering the general reputation of the old Harrisburg gang, the record is truly remarkable.—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

A BULL MOOSER full of fatted calf makes an irresistible campaigner.—*New York Sun.*

THERE is also this consolation: Less than half the candidates can be elected.—*Kansas City Star.*

QUEBEC bridge at this rate will replace London bridge in the nursery rime.—*Springfield Republican.*



ONE REASON HE'S HARD TO WHIP.

—Tuthill in the St. Louis *Star.*

A BAD elephant has finally been hanged because she had killed eight men. They don't put any such limit on kings or statesmen.—*New York Evening Sun.*

THE Democratic slogan "Do it for Wilson" is singularly like the Republican slogan, the only difference being the substitution of "to" for "for."—*Boston Transcript.*

A NEW-YORKER writes to us that he thoroughly understands the situation in Greece. In that case he should go to Athens at once and explain it to the Greeks.—*New York Sun.*

AN automobile bandit robbed a Standard Oil collector of $3,000, in Detroit the other day, but the company should worry, as he will have to pay it back for gasoline anyhow in the next few weeks.—*Dallas News.*

EGGS are now being imported from China, where they are bought for six cents a dozen. Apparently the American hen, without a protective tariff, is unable to compete with the pauper pullet of the Orient.—*Nashville Southern Lumberman.*

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FOREIGN - COMMENT

GERMANY WOOING LATIN AMERICA

THE WONDERFUL EFFICIENCY and far-sightedness of German commerce were never better illustrated than by the amount of space devoted in the German press, even in the midst of war, to Spanish America and its relations to the Empire. One of Germany's best authorities on South America, Dr. Paul Gast, a professor at the great commercial university at Aix-la-Chapelle, tells us the reason for this in a pamphlet called "Germany and South America," which he has published both in Berlin and Stuttgart. He calls South America the "beautiful Helen of the commercial world," and ignoring Helen's partiality for Paris, he claims her for Berlin, and says that she is vitally necessary to the Germany of the future. He warns his readers that Germany must make strenuous efforts to win her hand, as there is another dangerous rival in the field in the person of Uncle Sam. He writes:

"Sixty million people of European origin, still at the beginning of their politico-economic career, offer a rich field indeed for the industrial and cultural activities of the 'old' races of the European continent, forced as the latter are to look constantly for new fields for their ever-increasing production.

"For us Europeans, however, the race is merely an economic one; with the United States it is financial and political. If we interpret aright the tendencies prevalent in the South-American republics, they see in the Monroe Doctrine rather a danger than a powerful protector against the menace of European aggressiveness. It is, then, in our interest to further this anti-Yankee spirit, for under no circumstances can we tolerate a political predominance of the United States on this virgin economic soil. The struggle is thus well defined: Uncle Sam on the one side, all the rest of the trading nations of the world—Japan included—on the other side. Even this war, and our justified hatred of the Entente Powers, must not blind us to the fact that Germany's greatest danger in South America, so indispensable for our economic future, is not symbolized by the Union Jack, but by the Stars and Stripes."

He notes the establishment of branches of the great New York banks on the South-American continent, but thinks that at present we are a potential, not an actual, competitor:

"Happily, the commercial beverage offered to the South Americans by the Yankees does not agree with their stomachs. It is not only the bitter Panama and Mexico after-taste which spoiled the digestion. The Yankee's prices are high, he insists on cash on delivery, and, what is of still more importance, he can not adapt himself, as we Germans do, to the idiosyncrasies of the foreign customer. If Uncle Sam really wants to dislodge us from our solid positions there, he will have to use persistent trench-warfare instead of old-time cavalry attacks; not weeks and months, but decades are necessary to smash to pieces our cemented industrial dugouts."

Passing on to Germany's need of Latin America, he says:

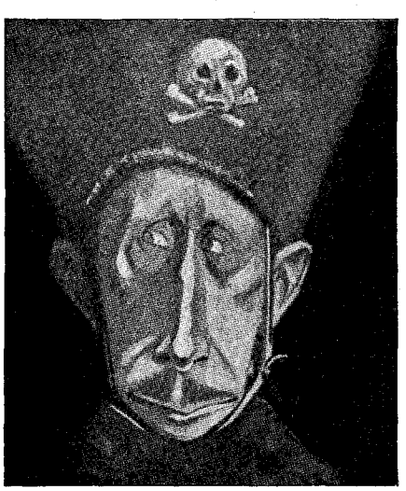
"And now let us, in all sincerity, try to answer the question: What does South America mean to us Germans? We will not enumerate here the banks, factories, stores, and schools established by us south of the Panama Canal, but we wish to impress upon the world at large and the United States in particular, that Germany, this world-Power, with its dense population, its eagerness for work, its financial strength, carries on this bloody war unflinchingly, because it is borne on by the inspiring knowledge that it is its duty to create for its future generations a free field for a world-embracing activity, and that, consequently, it can not suffer it that the countries of Latin America, *i.e.*, one-seventh of the earth's surface, with their natural treasures and progressive population, be closed to the influence of the German spirit, of German labor. We insist upon fair play in the South-American field, not for nebulous purposes, but for the sake of our own well-understood future."

The Professor considers that Latin America is under obligations to Germany, and points out:

"We taught Brazil and Chile the lumber and leather trade, brewing and shipbuilding; we erected model schools, often in the very midst of their virgin forests. . . . Very few people appreciate what we have done for the training of the South-American armies. The reorganization of the Chilean Army has been completely entrusted to German officers. Argentina employs Germans on the teaching staff of her War Academy, but they are excluded from the army service. Brazil is still under the almost complete influence of France, but there are already pro-German currents noticeable in certain military circles. Bolivia, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Paraguay have adopted the German system."

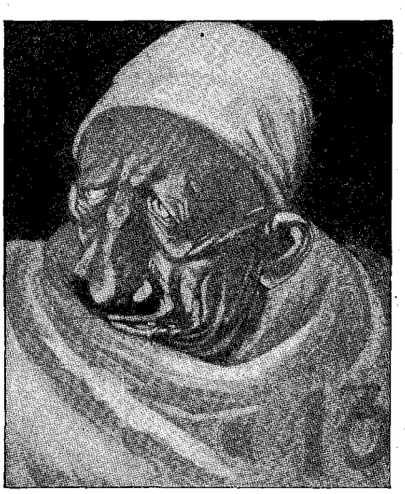
Latin America must be won to the German heart by missionaries of *Kultur*, the Professor thinks:

"In order, however, to win the absolute confidence of the population, we must get closer, much closer to it than up to this date. We must study the Iberian *Kultur* in Europe as represented by the Spanish Renaissance evolving before our very eyes at the present hour. The South-American Republics are



THE CROWN PRINCE.

MARSHAL VON HINDENBURG.



THE KAISER.

—*Critica* (Buenos Aires).

SOUTH-AMERICAN CARICATURES OF THE GERMAN LEADERS.

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now more than ever anxious to reconnect with the motherland; the Spanish-American War has awakened their sympathy, yea, pity, for old Spain.

"Let us profit by the present condition of the South-American soul in order to weaken the French and North-American influences. Down there they begin to understand that the United States has been, and is yet, the grave-digger of their national independence. . . . . .

"To sum up: Let us never forget that our great *Kultur* mission in Spanish America is and remains not only to conquer her markets, but also to catch the souls of her populations. But most of these souls refuse to be caught by us."

THE RESURRECTION OF POLAND

HOPES OF SPEEDY VICTORY have again raised the Polish question in Russia, while the conviction of victory already gained has raised it simultaneously in the Central Empires. Thus we find both sides devoting great attention to this unfortunate country, whose fate seems likely to be settled by one or other of its big neighbors without its having any very direct voice in the solution of its own future. One thing seems certain whichever side wins, and that is, that the Kingdom of Poland is once again to take its place in the concert of Europe. Turning first to the Russian press, we find a certain urgency of argument used. The Petrograd *Ryetch* writes:

A VOICE FROM THE TOMB.

POLAND—"Cease quarreling about my affairs. I rise from the grave to settle them myself." —*Budilnik* (Moscow).

"The last few days have intensified interest in the Polish question. If before our present very considerable successes at the front an expression of the views of the Government upon the future organization of Poland would have had chiefly a moral-political significance, now, when our armies are conducting an energetic offensive, when we are rapidly approaching the borders of Poland, such a formulation becomes undelayable. The general slogans of 1914 must receive confirmation in a more concrete form. . . . . .

"It can not but be admitted that we would greatly strengthen public opinion among our allies and raise our own moral weight both among the Allies and the neutrals, if we should, by the solution of the Polish question, offer a proof of our desire to move on a level with the progressive democracies of humanity, in so far, of course, as it does not conflict with our own national interests."

While a few of the reactionary journals, like the Petrograd *Golos Russi*, protest that the moment has not arrived for the discussion of Poland's future, all the progressive papers are united in the opinion that the exact status of the Poland of to-morrow should be speedily defined. The Moscow *Russkoye Slovo* bids the reactionaries put away their dream that the "autonomy" promised to Poland can be interpreted merely as local self-government, and roundly declares that Russia must fully satisfy the desire of the Poles for a nation of their own. The Moscow organ says:

"In the Polish cities self-government has been introduced; the Polish language is used in the courts to a very great extent; Polish children are studying under a national educational system, at the head of which is the University of Warsaw; Polish cultural and educational institutions which had been closed by the Russian authorities have renewed their activities. The Germans are trying by every means to win the Poles over to their side and have chosen the right course for it. If, however, they have not succeeded in conquering the age-long differences between Poland and Germanism, the more necessary is it for us to appreciate fully the significance of the fact that much that was only promised them by us has been realized for them by our adversary."

Meanwhile the Hungarian statesmen who rule over that portion of Poland lying in the dominions of the Emperor Franz Josef have been giving their attention to the matter, and Count Andrassy, the leader of the Hungarian opposition, has outlined a very comprehensive scheme for the future. We find the whole of Count Andrassy's position summarized and commented on in the *Journal de Genève*, which says:

"He has publicly pronounced himself to be in favor of the creation of an autonomous Poland formed by Russian Poland and Galicia under the scepter of the Hapsburgs, and he is not hostile to the transformation of the Empire into a triple Monarchy, in which Hungary and Poland, which would get on well together, would have a preponderating influence. Mr. von Bethmann-Hollweg has declared in the Reichstag that Germany and Austria have decided to solve the Polish question. Their idea is to settle the matter themselves before peace is concluded, so that the Congress, if there should be a Congress, would be faced with an accomplished and definite fact."

The idea of a kingdom of Poland in close alliance with Austria and Hungary does not find much favor in German eyes, and we find Count Monts, a former German Ambassador in Rome, urging in the *Berliner Tageblatt* that the Kingdom of Poland must depend upon Germany rather than on Austria. His argument runs:

"As regards Germany, it will be generally recognized as correct that any connection with Poland can only take a very loose form, such as a personal union or the relation of a protectorate. Germany is a State with a nationality of her own; there does not exist inside her borders any close district speaking Polish, such as occurs, for example, in West Galicia. Polish citizens of the Empire dwell side by side with Germans. The possession of the provinces of Posen and West Prussia is a geographical necessity to Germany, and admits of no discussion. Those who want a United Poland must make up their minds to this."

The Vienna papers, none the less, consider the matter settled. The *Neue Freie Presse* writes:

"Poland will never be given back to the Russians; it must not be given back to them. Russians must never again rule in Warsaw; and history must not move backward. The Austro-Hungarian authorities in the Polish districts have given expression to the fact that the Central Powers consider that Poland has been severed in perpetuity from Russia, and they have ordained that the inhabitants of the Congress of Poland shall regard themselves no longer as Russian subjects, but as citizens of the Kingdom of Poland."

Many of the German papers think that annexation of the whole of Poland by Prussia is the simplest solution of the difficulty, as the *Hamburger Fremdenblatt* remarks:

"The two Central Powers will have to secure themselves against the relapse of Poland into dependence on Russia, either through external force or through the internal weakness of the future State. . . . The Poles themselves will not expect that Germany should only bleed for their independence: the certainty must also be established that Germany will never be threatened by a free Poland."

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THE LANGUAGE-ISSUE IN CANADA

A BITTER FIGHT has been raging in Canada over the use of the French language in the schools of Ontario, and we are told that it has not only engendered the sharpest race feeling between the British and French inhabitants, but, still more remarkable, it has divided the Roman Catholic population into "French" and "Irish" camps. It is further alleged that this language-issue is responsible for the small percentage of French-Canadians found in the Canadian force in France. The whole question is discust in detail in the London *Round Table*, an authoritative quarterly review of the politics of the British Empire, which puts the question before us in its briefest form. In the generally English-speaking province of Ontario the law provides that—

"in communities where French is the prevailing language it shall be for two years the language of instruction in elementary classes, and for a further period if the inspectors so order. After two years of school-life the language of instruction becomes English, but French is taught as a subject for at least an hour a day, and more if the inspectors so decide. It is argued, however, that these regulations apply only to schools in which French teaching was permitted 'hitherto,' and that the organization of new schools in French communities is thus prohibited. The Ontario Government does not so interpret the regulations. But it is the deliberate intention to sanction French schools only where French is the prevailing language, and to provide for new schools by regulation rather than by statute."

The demands of the French-Canadians in Ontario is that where their language prevails the instruction during the whole of the school-life shall be given in the French tongue. The "Irish" element in Roman Catholic circles is bitterly opposed to these proposals, and the present state of the law in Ontario is due, *The Round Table* tells us, to their influence. To quote further:

"Bishop Fallon, of London, the most eloquent and aggressive of their spokesmen, insisted that in separate schools attended by French- and English-speaking Catholics, none of the pupils could obtain a decent education, and that the schools were distinguished for inefficiency and illiteracy. Substantially the Bishop's charges were entertained by a Commission appointed by the Government to investigate and report."

After this report the present legislation was passed in Ontario and the trouble began. At the Federal capital at Ottawa the French Educational Association revolted and refused to allow the provincial inspectors to enter the schools. Between five and six hundred children withdrew and paraded with their parents as a protest against the law. Aided by the Nationalists in Quebec, the French leaders in Ontario have fought the education laws in the courts. "In litigation arising out of the legislation seven judges of the High Court of Ontario have affirmed its validity, while no single judge has supported the contention of its opponents." But none the less the French leaders have carried the matter to the highest tribunal in the British Empire, the Privy Council in London. Finally, *The Round Table* sums up the matter in its special and general aspects, by saying:

"It may be added that in some of the English-French schools, of Ontario, the regulations which have encountered such violent opposition at Ottawa are working satisfactorily. There is no doubt strong and general feeling in Ontario that English must be maintained as the dominant language, but the authorities disclaim any desire to deal harshly with French-Canadians. . . .

"Opponents of the French demands suggest that it is sought to take advantage of a crisis in the fortunes of Canada and the Empire to secure new rights and privileges for the French people, and they insist that these can not be conceded, however unseemly and untimely is the dispute which is dividing the two races into hostile factions. Feeling, perhaps, is also aggravated by unsatisfactory recruiting in Quebec, or at least by a response which the English Provinces regard as unsatisfactory. When the war began, it was thought that the appeal of France would be irresistible in Quebec, and that the common sacrifices of France and Great Britain would unite French and English in Canada in a common patriotism and a common devotion to the ideals for which the free nations contend on the red fields of

THE UNHATCHED EGG.

THE LITTLE FATHER—"This Polish-autonomy egg is hard to hatch. I wonder what's the matter." —© *Kladderadatsch* (Berlin).

A DIREFUL THREAT.

THE KAISERS (to the former Mpret of Albania)—"Now we will make you Mpret of Poland." —*De Telegraaf* (Amsterdam).

RUSSIAN AND TEUTON PROMISES TO POLAND SATIRIZED.

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France and Flanders. Instead we have a racial quarrel, stimulated by Nationalists in Quebec, aggravated perhaps by occasional unwise utterances in the English Provinces, and of ominous import for the future."

THE DANISH ISLANDS MUDDLE

DISTINCTLY PUZZLED by the delay on Denmark's part in ratifying the treaty for the sale of the Danish West Indies, American readers are inquiring the cause. It will be recalled that the American and Danish Governments entered into a treaty whereby the islands, valuable to us on account of their strategic position to the Panama Canal, were to pass under the American flag, while Denmark was to receive compensation at the rate of $25,000,000. Notwithstanding this high price, the Senate immediately ratified the treaty, but so far the Danish Parliament has refused to do so, despite the loudly exprest demands of the islanders themselves, who see visions of a prosperous future before them under American rule. From the Manchester *Guardian* we learn that, while the whole Danish nation is anxious to sell, certain political parties have seized this opportunity to force a general election in the hope of overthrowing the present Government. *The Guardian* writes:

AS HOLLAND SEES IT.

DUTCH COLONIES (to their mother)—"Oh, don't ever sell us to a rich man like that."
—*De Amsterdammer.*

"The sale of the islands is the biggest issue in Danish politics in the present century. The essential controversy, however, is not over the sale itself. For the sale, if it were not complicated by a quarrel over methods, there would be a majority. In favor of the sale are the Radicals, the Socialists (the largest party), and the Left. The Left are against the Cabinet's tactics, and generally aim at throwing out the Premier, Mr. Zahle, but they declare through Mr. Christiansen, a former Premier and now leader of the Left, or Peasants' party, that if a 'constitutional' Riksdag is elected they will vote for the sale. Alone of the recognized parties the Conservatives condemn both the sale and the method of carrying it through.

"The wisdom and expediency of the sale are entirely submerged by other questions. First comes the outcry against the secret negotiations and the alleged attempt to commit the nation to the transaction without consulting beforehand even the present 'unconstitutional' Riksdag."

The Left protest that Mr. Brandes, the brother of the famous critic, Georg Brandes, denied that negotiations were taking place with the United States, and charge that the people were unable to express their views until confronted with a *fait accompli*. In discussing this point, the Copenhagen *Berlingske Tidende* says:

"The Cabinet used its extraordinary powers, given to it merely to protect Denmark's neutrality in order to deprive the Danish people of their sovereign rights in an issue that has nothing to do with the war."

The Government has been forced to yield to the popular demand for a general election before confirming the treaty, yet it has given way with a bad grace, because it is evidently apprehensive of what action America may take in the interim. To return to the Manchester *Guardian*, it tells us that—

"The Cabinet's position has been made plain by Mr. Brandes. . . . Mr. Brandes declares that 'international considerations alone were the cause of the sale.' The condition of the islands and the American monetary offer were not deciding inducements. The meaning of 'international considerations' was made plain by Mr. Brandes's question, 'What should we do, for instance, if the United States occupied the islands? Should we declare war, or appeal to Europe?' Mr. Brandes further said that if the opposition had its way and forced on a general election, which could not be decided before November, 'the responsibility for the consequences which might follow would fall on the Riksdag.' The Conservative papers declare that, 'if this is not another false statement,' it means that Washington, for reasons connected with the Presidential election, wants the deal completed at once, and is determined to complete it itself if Denmark hesitates. The Foreign Minister, Mr. Scavenius, emphasizes Mr. Brandes's hints about pressure, and even says that he certainly does not know 'how far the American Government would consent to a postponement.'

"Before the islands crisis began Mr. Christiansen's party was assailing the Cabinet for alleged subserviency to Berlin. The Government organs replied that when Mr. Christiansen was himself in power he and his colleague, Count Ahlefeld-Laurpig, pursued a policy so friendly to Germany that the populace called it the 'German Course' (*Tyskekurs*); Mr. Christiansen was sharply attacked for this; and now, say the Radicals, he is trying to reverse the maneuver and to exploit the undoubted unpopularity of Germany with the Danish masses in order to become Premier. No election-cry is likely to succeed so well as the charge of pro-Germanism. The actual issue of the islands' sale is entirely subordinate to this party-struggle."

THE ODDS ON PEACE—Shrewd folk whose business is finance are seldom caught napping, and the views of the insurance-brokers on the advent of peace are significant when we consider that they stand to lose should their forecast be faulty. The London *Pall Mall Gazette* gives us the rates quoted for "peace policies" in the British capital, to show that its early arrival is evidently not anticipated. *The Pall Mall* says:

"Judging by opinions exprest just now at Lloyd's we may expect to have peace toward the close of next year. That, at least, is the impression of underwriters, who are quoting 30 guineas per cent. for a 'peace' policy extending to December 31, 1917. From inquiries made to-day of a leading insurance-broker we learn that in the case of a policy covering the period to the end of the present year, the rate quoted is 85 guineas per cent., while if taken out for three months later a policy would rule at 70 guineas per cent. The rate is 60 guineas to June 30, 1917, or 15 guineas per cent. less if the time be extended to September of next year.

"Exprest in tabular manner, the underwriters at Lloyd's are willing to pay losses at the following rates if peace is declared between this country and Germany at the dates specified:

	Guineas Per cent.
December 30, 1916	85
March 31, 1917	70
June 30, 1917	60
September 30, 1917	45
December 31, 1917	30

"These quotations suggest that Lord Kitchener gaged correctly when he prepared for a war to last three years at least."

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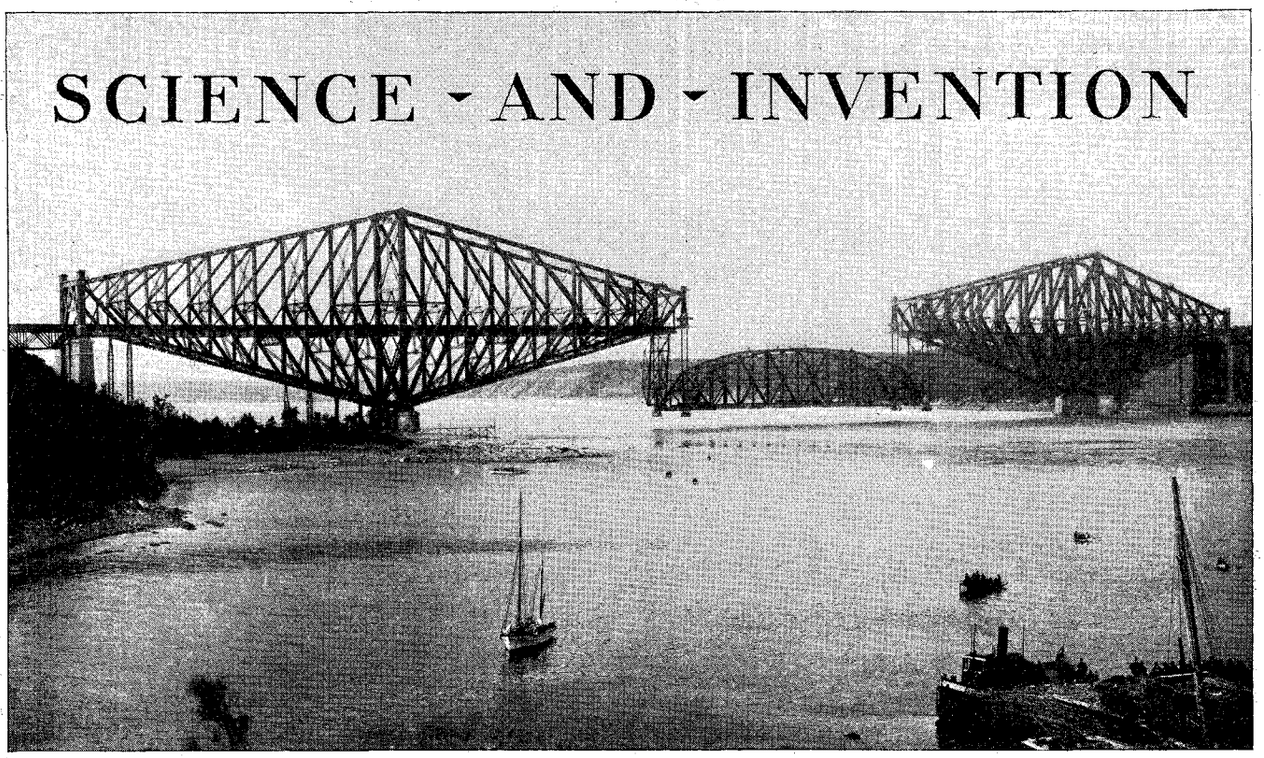
SCIENCE - AND - INVENTION



Photographed by the Montreal "Standard." Courtesy of "The Engineering Record," New York.

THE QUEBEC BRIDGE, SHOWING THE CENTRAL SPAN SUSPENDED JUST BEFORE ITS FALL.

A picture of the bridge at the moment of collapse appeared in our issue of last week.

WHY QUEBEC'S BRIDGE-SPAN FELL

THE MYSTERY surrounding the fall of the great center span of the Quebec bridge into the St. Lawrence River on September 11 is examined by two high engineering authorities, who reach similar solutions. Observers seem to agree that if the bridge span had once been raised to its proper place it would have withstood all the stress and strain for which it was designed. There seems to have been nothing wrong with the construction of either the center piece or the supporting arms. The great steel structure was safely carried up-stream and fastened to the four supporting chains depending from the arms above. The lifting began auspiciously and everything was apparently secure when something gave way at one corner. Mr. Harry Barker, of *The Engineering News* (New York), an eye-witness, believed that a casting connected with one of the four lifting chains broke, the span slipt from its support at this corner, and, thus unsupported, was bound to tear loose at the other corners and go to the bottom. After the accident Mr. Barker made a detailed examination of the lifting equipment of the bridge which confirmed this view. In their next attempt, we read in the Boston *Transcript's* Quebec correspondence, the engineers will take no chances on cast steel, but will use rolled steel instead. *The Engineering Record* (New York) shows by the diagram reproduced on the next page how the failure of the support at one corner led to the fall and collapse of the span. In accounting for the disaster *The Engineering News* recalls that the span had been hung to the cantilever arms by the erection of hanger-chains and had been hoisted successfully 10 or 15 feet. Now—

"The huge lifting chains by which the truss hung suspended did not fail. They are intact, with the lifting girders still attached to their lower ends. The suspended span alone is gone. That is the basal fact. The swinging chairs on which the span was seated are intact—barely scratched—but their burden has slipt off into the river.

"The place of initial failure, then, is narrowed down to the place where the truss rested on the girders which hung from the bottom of the lifting chains. The rocker-bearing on which the truss rested was over four feet higher than the pin-bearing through the girder by which the load was transferred to the chains. To hold the girder from rotation, there were plate-and-angle connections between the top chord of the girder and the short built-hanger link which formed the means of attaching the girder to the chains.

"Of course, so long as the span remained absolutely level, and absolutely central on the lifting girder, there was no tendency to tip or rotate the girder, and no strain against the plate-and-angle connection just mentioned. At the moment of the accident something happened which upset this condition of perfect central loading. If the steel casting which supported the south up-stream corner of the span broke under its load of some 1,300 tons, its fracture would have produced the loud report with which the disaster began. As the truss-shoe settled down through the broken fragments of the casting, it was bound to destroy irrecoverably the delicate condition of central loading. It may have kicked the supporting girder out from beneath it; it may have shoved it far enough to one side so that the unbalanced load on the girder would rotate it on its pin and let this corner of the truss slide off. In either case the wreck of the suspended span would occur as the eye-witness account describes it. One corner unsupported and only the unsteady swinging chairs under the other three, the ponderous span was bound to go to the bottom."

The success which marked the occasion up to the falling of the span is remarked by *The Engineering Record* (New York), which informs us that the span had been erected on shore and was to be towed to the bridge-site and hoisted from the supporting scows to the track-level, 150 feet above. The raising of the 5,200-ton load on the scows was accomplished, the three-mile trip to the bridge was made on schedule, and—

"The connection of the span to the hoisting chains, considered the critical feature of the work, was successfully made. The operation of the hoisting-jacks and the falling tide soon freed the scows. They were withdrawn, and for an hour and a half, during which the span was raised in at least seven successive two-foot lifts, the huge structure hung free from the cantilever arms, all apparently going exactly as planned.

"Then, without warning, the span slipt into the river, carrying with it, some to their death, the workers on it.

"Facts have not been developed which allow the cause of the disaster to be satisfactorily explained. A careful examination

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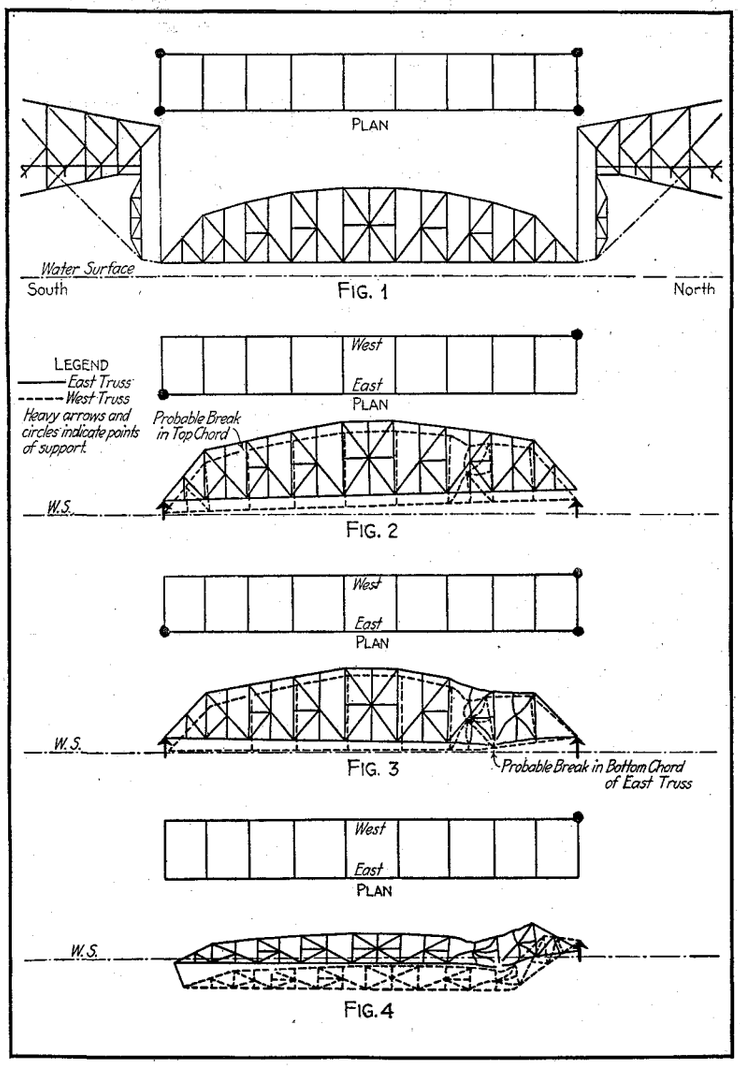
of the lifting girders and chains has given no clue. . . . The girders and their chains still hang from the cantilever arms. Two of the girders—those that carried the southeast and the northwest corners of the suspended span—make an angle with the horizontal, but that fact is readily explained by the knowledge of how the span went into the river. The hoisting equipment is in perfect condition save for the rupture of piping connections between the jacking-platforms and the ends of the cantilever consequent upon the shock. In some way the span slipt from its supporting stirrups. At present, therefore, and possibly for all time, we can only theorize as to the initial cause. Various theories have been proposed and various explanations are offered. They can only be weighed with respect to their relative degrees of probability. Facts to test them, to confirm them, to refute them are missing."

The Engineering Record proceeds then to demolish certain suggested theories, and inclines to the view of *The Engineering News*, aforementioned, when it observes:

"The most plausible explanation of the failure is that the casting intermediate between the two pins on the lifting girder on the southwest corner broke. This casting—in fact, the whole of this universal supporting shoe at each corner, as well as the lifting girders—carried heavier loads at Sillery Cove, where the span was erected, than during the hoisting operation. Suspicion is directed at the castings only through a process of elimination. Forgings and rolled sections are more reliable than castings, in which concealed flaws are always possible. Furthermore, probably every other detail of the structure and of the hoisting mechanism is more determinate as to calculation than these castings. . . . While apparently ample in design so that the stresses, as well as judgment can dictate, are conservative, the shape is such that a flaw in one of the wings might allow a crack to start at the root. Total failure would readily result from such an initial crack."



From "The Engineering Record," New York.

SUCCESSIVE STEPS IN THE COLLAPSE.

Fig. 1.—Just before the accident. Fig. 2.—Southwest support gone. Fig. 3.—Failure of east truss. Fig. 4.—Final plunge.

This weekly goes on to say that it will be the hope of the entire engineering profession that facts will be disclosed to clear up the mystery because—

"The method was a great step forward in bridge-erection practise. It was originated and developed by the best bridge-engineering talent on the American continent. Its details were thought out with a minuteness and care that were nothing short of marvelous. Moreover, it worked—yes, we repeat it—it worked even tho the span lies to-day on the bed of the river. From the time the span left Sillery Cove until it dropt into the stream there was no hitch in the program. Every operation save one, the driving of the pins connecting the suspender eye-bars of the cantilever arms with the suspended span, had been successfully performed. The remaining moves, except the one just referred to, were repetitions of those already made. All the more reason, therefore, for hoping that the error, the accident—call it what you will—may be analyzed.

"The loss of the span, while it may in the lay mind cast discredit on those responsible for the work, in reality put the remaining parts of the structure to a most extraordinary test, and so proved the ability of the designers and builders. The suspension of the span from the cantilever arms deflected their ends between 9 and 10 inches. The application of the load was gradual. Its release, on the contrary, was sudden. Men on the ends were thrown down, while the vibration lasted long enough for one man to run about 250 feet toward the anchorage. At least the full deflection must have been recovered, and probably the momentum carried the ends above the normal unloaded position. Yet the cantilevers stood—and apparently undamaged."

A Quebec correspondent of the Boston *Transcript* tells of the determination of the bridge company, backed by the Canadian Government, to go ahead again. Yet, he says:

"A nemesis seems to have followed the plan to bridge the St. Lawrence in connection with the great Canadian national undertaking, the National Transcontinental Railway. The first structure, begun in 1903, collapsed in 1907, when some 240 feet of the steel superstructure connecting the pier on the south side with the south anchor pier or shore pier had been completed. The loss of life at that time was over seventy, the exact number of victims never being accurately determined. A royal commission named by the Dominion Government found that the disaster was due to defects of material. The Government at once determined to go on with the enterprise, and plans were drawn up calling for a heavier and more stable structure.

"The Quebec bridge has the longest span from pier to pier among the world's bridges. Its nearest competitor is the great Firth of Forth bridge, designed by Sir Benjamin Baker, which has a span of 1,710 feet as against 1,800 feet of the Quebec bridge. Some of the dimensions of the Quebec bridge are:

Length	3,300 feet
Approach spans (each)	220 "
Anchor arms (each)	500 "
Cantilever arms (each)	562.5 "
Central span	1,800 "
Suspended span	640 "
Weight of suspended span	5,100 tons
Weight of steel in bridge	65,000 "

"In the new project, which is to be completed within a year, only one change is to be made in the specifications. In the hoisting apparatus no cast steel will be used, members of rolled steel taking its place. The casting that gave way had been thoroughly tested for two weeks by the engineers, but it failed. No more chances will be taken with cast steel, even for compression strain. That is the lesson taught by the collapse of the suspended span."

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SCIENTIFIC APPOINTMENTS

THAT THE EXPERT OR NON-EXPERT character of Government appointees to scientific positions seems likely to become a vital political issue appears to *The Scientific Monthly* (September) a hopeful sign. It appears now to be acknowledged by both parties, says this magazine, that such posts should be filled by experts, and the only matter at issue is the extent to which this standard has been maintained. It is the editorial opinion of *The Monthly* that while the present Administration is justly criticized on this score, it is perhaps to be blamed less than any previous Administration, regardless of party. In fact, the advice of the National Academy of Sciences, the specially designated scientific adviser of the Government, has never been asked regarding appointments until the last few years. Says the editor:

"In opening his campaign at Detroit, Mr. Hughes charged the Administration with having displaced the scientific heads of the Census and of the Coast and Geodetic Survey with men not having scientific qualifications. The word 'displaced' is ambiguous and was perhaps intended to be so, and the reply of the Secretary of Commerce that both men had 'voluntarily retired' is also, and it may be purposely, ambiguous. Men familiar with university affairs, like the two candidates for the Presidency, know that professors sometimes have their resignations presented to them. It is allowable to say either that Dr. Wilson displaced Dr. Patton as president of Princeton University or that Dr. Patton resigned and was succeeded by Dr. Wilson. As a matter of fact, Dr. Durand's resignation as Director of the Census was forced, and Dr. Tittmann, who was sixty-five years old and in indifferent health, resigned voluntarily from the Coast and Geodetic Survey.

"The vulnerable point in the action of the Administration is the appointment of their successors. Mr. William J. Harris, appointed Director of the Census, was chairman of the Democratic State Committee of Georgia, and the appointment appears to have been for political reasons, as has unfortunately so often happened in the Bureau of the Census, where the extension of civil-service rules has been least adequate. E. Lester Jones, when appointed Superintendent of the Coast and Geodetic Survey to succeed Dr. Tittmann, was Deputy Commissioner of Fisheries. His appointment to that office and his promotion to the head of the Survey in the same department appear to have been personal rather than political. He has proved to be an efficient executive, but his appointment to both offices certainly violated the principle that these positions should be held by experts.

"It can not, however, be denied that there are two sides to this question. Under modern conditions a distinguished man of science is likely to be a good executive, but the number of scientific men available for a position of this character is limited, and it is by no means certain that it is desirable to divert the skilled expert from his research work to an executive position. Another solution of the problem would be to make the heads of bureaus purely administrative officers, to be filled by men used to administrative work, but for the scientific policy of the bureau to be decided by a committee of its scientific experts and for the more eminent of these to receive salaries not smaller than that of the executive head."

The writer is of the opinion that the two scientific appointments mentioned are the only ones in which the President is open to criticism. He is the first President, we are assured, who has officially asked the advice of scientific men on such points. At the meeting of the council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, held in Washington on April 22, 1913, shortly after President Wilson's installation, the following resolution, proposed by Mr. Cattell, was passed:

"WHEREAS, It is eminently desirable that scientific men especially skilled in their departments be appointed as heads of the scientific bureaus of the Government, therefore,

"*Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed to communicate to the President of the United States that it is the opinion of the council of the American Association for the Advancement of Science that a scientific man skilled in meteorology should be selected as the Chief of the Weather Bureau."

The editorial writer goes on:

"The committee waited on the President, who requested the Secretary of Agriculture to consult with the committee of the Association. The Secretary of Agriculture at that time stated that no appointment in the Department of Agriculture had been made or would be made for political reasons, or even be given to a man who sought the office. The committee of the American Association called the attention of the Secretary to the fact that the National Academy of Sciences is by law the scientific adviser of the Government, and the President, as far as we are aware, for the first time since the law was enacted in 1863, asked the advice of the Academy on an appointment. A committee of experts of the Academy recommended three men skilled in meteorology and fitted for the office of Chief of the Weather Bureau, and one of these was appointed by the President. In like manner the Commissioner of Fisheries was appointed from candidates proposed by the American Society of Naturalists and the American Zoological Society. In other cases President Wilson has asked and followed the advice of scientific bodies and scientific men, and his record in this respect is certainly better than that of any of his recent predecessors. We can only hope that he himself or Mr. Hughes, as the case may be, will still further improve this record in the course of the next four years."

"DOPE-COPS" AT WORK

THE WORK of the Federal inspectors whose duty it is to enforce the Harrison Law regulating the sale of narcotics is described in *The Pharmaceutical Era* (New York). Particular emphasis is laid on the work in Cincinnati, where Dr. George Stier, the chief narcotic inspector, has gained wide notice among the physicians and druggists of the West for his successful efforts to eliminate the illegitimate traffic in drugs and to cure and save its victims. His success, according to the writer, is due to an unusual combination of tact, ability, knowledge, and efficiency. After the new inspector had made the acquaintance of Cincinnati's physicians and druggists and gained their confidence, the city suddenly woke up, we are told, to the fact that the law was being rather strictly enforced within its borders. Careless druggists began to keep records of their drug-sales; physicians whose violations of law brought them revenue found that they were "spotted" and in danger of punishment. We read:

"A study of conditions in the city soon brought the conclusion that most of the trouble lay at the feet of physicians who did most of their work in the congested districts. Here were found the worst examples of the drug-fiend. In the narrow streets and alleys, in the tenement-houses and homes along the docks were the types which gave their hard-earned money to a physician for a small quantity of narcotic. . . . Dr. Stier and his assistants spent several months in these districts; they watched and waited outside of dingy cubby-holes; they raided many suspected places, and no one, because of previous record or standing in a community, was immune from the law.

"The work of the Federal agents in Cincinnati was not complete when they brought into court those who sold and prescribed narcotics illegitimately. The inspectors spent quite as much time studying the types of drug-fiend as they did in enforcing the Harrison Narcotic Law. The men who loitered around corners in the congested districts, those who had the haggard and disconsolate look characteristic of the drug-fiend, and all who were even suspected of indulging were brought up, questioned, and examined. Another 'suspect' list was arranged and detailed records of individual cases were put on file. The agents watch each case closely, and, if there is the slightest suspicion that more drugs are being secured, the prescribing physician is haled to court. . . . . .

"Dr. Stier has found it convenient to divide Cincinnati's drug-fiends into two distinct classes and to treat them accordingly. There are those cases, he holds, that are recognizably incurable and those which are curable. In the first instance, he has ruled that a physician may prescribe narcotics, but any doctor who prescribes narcotics for a case deemed curable will be punished."

As a result of this strict law-enforcement, the writer thinks there have been many cures, and letters to the authorities testify to the gratitude of those whom deprivation has forced

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back to a normal life. The writer quotes from one of these letters:

"Don't give it to them! Don't let them get it! The Harrison law is the greatest law ever made by the mind of man. I, who have been a fiend for nineteen years, say this in all truth. Pity them, help them, not with a drug, but a cure!"

We are told, in conclusion:

"To say or even intimate that Cincinnati has been rid of all drug-fiends and illegitimate practitioners would not be wholly true. But there are elaborate indications that Dr. Stier's house-cleaning has reduced to a minimum the peddling of narcotics. The work of the agents among the victims is best shown by countless letters of praise sent to the officials after a cure has been made. The letter quoted in this article is only one of many received by Dr. Stier and his assistants.

"The belief that the surest way to enforce the Harrison Narcotic Law is to hale offenders to court and punish them with fines has been rudely shaken by the results attained by the Federal inspectors in Cincinnati. They contend that the easiest method of enforcing the law is to arrest offenders, but they add that the easiest way is not the best. Officials of the department in Cincinnati boast that they have an accurate record of every physician and druggist in the city, not to mention the individual users of narcotics. Only with this information, they say, can the law be enforced strictly and efficiently.

"Dr. Stier is certain that his method is the correct one. He points to the fact that it is seldom in Cincinnati that a Federal judge has to impose a maximum penalty. In fact, cases involving the Harrison Narcotic Law are getting fewer with every week, and the plain truth seems to be that the law is being respected and obeyed.

"Physicians and druggists of Cincinnati were among the first to applaud the efforts of Dr. Stier. And the inspector is not without gratitude for the genial assistance that he has enjoyed from all quarters. As a sure-fire remedy against violations of the law, the inspector sought and got the co-operation of druggists and physicians. The results speak for themselves."

TWILIGHT-SLEEP PROPAGANDA

PROBABLY THE LAY PUBLIC has never interested itself so widely in any purely surgical method as it has in the so-called "twilight sleep" for painless childbirth. We do not see articles in newspapers and magazines calling on the medical profession to adopt this or that procedure in operations for appendicitis or cataract. But many writers clamor loudly for this particular method, and assert that all medical men who do not agree are either malicious or incompetent. These lay critics of the surgical profession have been particularly busy of late in England, we learn from a leading editorial in *The Hospital* (London, July 15), whose author asserts in a somewhat sensational head-line that the twilight-sleep propaganda is "a danger to the race." Says this writer:

"At the present time a certain enterprising editor of a Sunday newspaper is opening his columns, week by week, to a non-medical writer who pours unceasing scorn and contempt on the medical profession for its ignorance, inhumanity, and negligence in not adopting the scopolamin-morphin method of analgesia for women in childbirth. The doctors of London come in for the lion's share of this abuse; but the hospitals of London are equally held up to ridicule because those that admit women for confinements do not, as a routine, adopt the method. Indeed, the suggestion is actually made that a 'twilight-sleep hospital' should be established in London. This campaign of abuse of the medical profession and of advertisement for a particular method of treatment has been going on in the lay press for a year or more; and, inasmuch as it has attracted a good deal of attention among the public, especially among young married women, it is time that the truth about the matter should be authoritatively told. Grave charges have been and are being constantly reiterated against the medical profession, supported by dogmatic statements. The fact that those who bring these charges are not capable of judging whether their statements are true or false is not appreciated by many members of the public; so a brief statement of the whole position may be timely.

"By the use of two very powerful drugs—scopolamin and morphin—used in a certain way, it is possible to produce in a patient a state of somnolence of which he retains afterward no recollection, tho he is not at the time asleep or unconscious in the ordinary sense of those words. If these drugs be administered to a woman in the early stages of labor, she retains afterward little or no recollection of the painful uterine contractions. The patient feels them as they occur, and will express the sense of pain—she is drowsy rather than anesthetized. To carry the matter a little further, the later stage of labor is characterized by pains much more severe than the comparatively brief and mild pains of the earlier stage. It is for the later pains that chloroform is advantageous; or, to put it in another way, it is these severe pains that anesthesia (complete unconsciousness) annihilates and abolishes. Not only does chloroform (or ether) confer this great boon on the mother; it actually facilitates the task of the obstetrician. Altho not wholly free from drawbacks, the use of chloroform in the second stage of labor is on balance advantageous from the purely scientific, as well as from the humanitarian, point of view. There are plenty of women who prefer not to have it, just as there are plenty of people who prefer to have their teeth extracted without any mitigation of the pain; but the consensus of professional opinion is in favor of this method of anesthesia for the later stage of labor.

"Now the use of chloroform, so valuable for the later stage of labor, is detrimental in the earlier stage. Scopolamin-morphin, on the other hand, is of value only for this stage, not for the later stage. Obviously, if from the obstetric standpoint there is no countervailing disadvantage, scopolamin-morphin is as much to be recommended for the early stage as chloroform is for the later. It has to be borne in mind that the degree of pain is very much slighter in the former than in the latter; but that alone is no argument for not relieving it, if this can be accomplished without any detriment. This is where the medical profession and its critics part company. The profession says that the twilight-sleep method has drawbacks, one of which is so grave that it outweighs all the advantages in ordinary cases. Those who are conducting the press campaign aforesaid deny most vehemently the existence of these drawbacks; and accuse the medical profession of inhumanity, selfishness, pig-headedness, ignorance, stupidity, and other defects of character as an explanation of the difference of opinion.

"We have taken some trouble to ascertain from leading obstetric specialists in London their experience and their views on twilight sleep. We note, by the way, that the great majority of expert opinion in America and in other countries, as exprest in high-class medical literature, is in accordance with that of London. Every single man and woman practitioner we have consulted has tried the method, either in hospital or in private practise, or in both. Every single one says the same thing, that twilight sleep is dangerous to the babies and that it actually kills a certain number of them. A small proportion of children are killed, but their number is a quite definite one. There the question ends in a deadlock for the present: the experts say one thing; their non-medical critics deny it, and accuse them of having bungled in their method of producing twilight sleep. We are far from any belief in the infallibility of medical experts, even when they are unanimous, as in this case they seem to be. We admit the possibility of their being one and all mistaken in their observations, illogical in their inferences, incompetent in their technique. But before we accept the word of a lay critic that such is the case, we are bound to examine the statements of that critic. We find them . . . permeated throughout by error, exaggeration, malice, and prejudice. Their appeal is to ignorance and to hysteria, not to enlightenment and reason. The editor who publishes wild words of this sort can not shelter himself behind his inability to judge about such technical matters; it is his duty to take counsel with responsible people."

In this country most of the hospitals, led by Johns Hopkins, seem to have given up the "twilight-sleep" method, after more or less prolonged experiment. There are some exceptions, among which the Long Island College Hospital, in Brooklyn, N. Y., is notable. Says the New York *Sun*, quoting officials of this institution:

"At the Long Island College Hospital in Brooklyn, the twilight-sleep method is held in as high a regard as it ever was since it was put into practise there.

"'We use the twilight-sleep method whenever the patients want it,' one of the obstetricians at the hospital said recently, 'and almost always with success.' It was declared by the hospital officials that the action of Johns Hopkins Hospital in disapproving the method would have no effect on its use at the

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Long Island College Hospital, and that the hospital had no intention of giving it up now after the satisfactory results which had been obtained."

BIRDS AS TREE-PROTECTORS

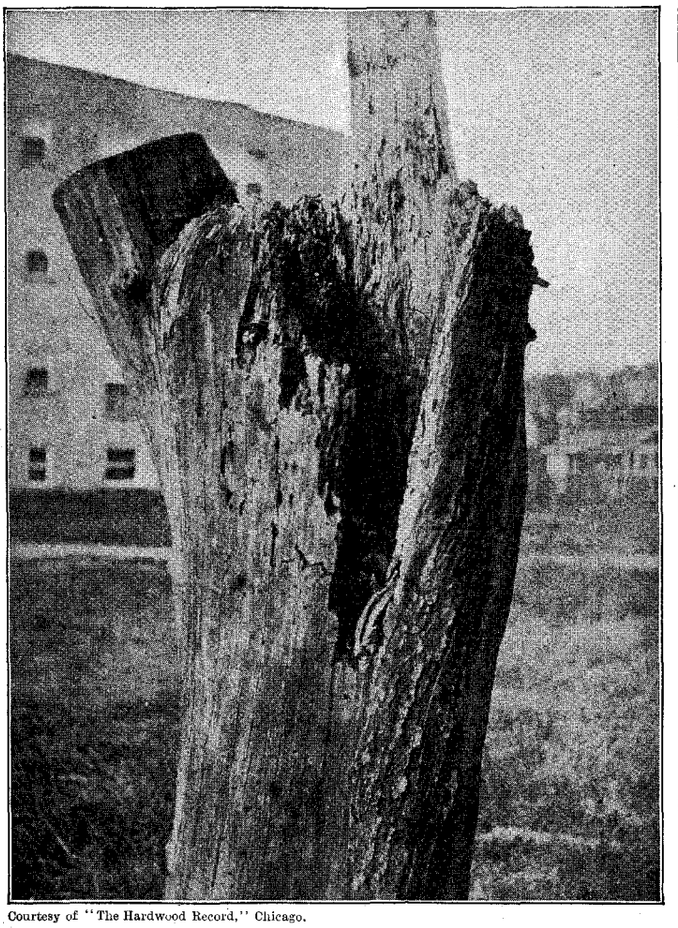
TREES FURNISH THE BIRDS with leafy shelter. In return, birds save the lives of the trees by destroying their insect enemies. One of the most efficient ways to kill a tree is to keep the birds away from it. This may be done by scaring them away or by killing them outright; and the small boy with his toy rifle, or even with a bean-shooter, may serve to accomplish either purpose. Thus, the relationship between forestry and the juvenile marksman is pretty close, distant as it may seem at first. Concrete instances show how close it is in some localities and under certain circumstances, says *The Hardwood Record* (Chicago). Our quotations are from an abstract of the *Record* article printed in *American Forestry* (Washington, September). Here we read:

"Everybody with any degree of information concerning the balancing forces of Nature knows that but for birds the insects would devour all the vegetation from the face of the world. For some years past the small boys of the North Shore (some parts, but perhaps not all parts) have been abundantly armed in spring, summer, and fall with toy rifles and have gone forth to shoot without much restraint from parental or municipal authority. These guns are not all harmless toys. Many shoot cartridges and can properly be classed as deadly weapons, while others are air-guns and are less harmful, but are none the less nuisances. Boys no more than seven years old have been furnished with such guns and have gone out with boys of larger size to shoot birds. The war against the feathered inhabitants of the woods has increased or decreased, depending on the season, for a long time; but it has never stopt.

"Some birds present a much more inviting target than others to the boy with a rifle. None attracts more than the woodpecker. Even the children of the wild Indians killed woodpeckers as their first adventure with the bow and arrow. Tho some species are wild and shy, they are not difficult to approach if the hunter is skilful.

"Trees have no better friends than the woodpeckers. Every forested region has one or more species. The ivory-billed woodpecker holds chief place in Southern forests, the hairy woodpecker in the far north, the black ant-eating woodpecker on the Pacific coast; while the central hardwood region is the favorite home of the downy woodpecker. It is black and white, sometimes with a red feather or two, and in size is rather smaller than a robin. Some call it a sapsucker. It may occasionally indulge in a sip of sap from small holes which its bill punctures in a tree's bark, but its substantial food consists of insects which it picks from holes in decaying wood. It devours ants by the thousand.

"This small, beautiful, harmless bird is the creature against which the boys of the North Shore woods have waged ceaseless and senseless war until it has been exterminated (or apparently so) in many wooded tracts. These are the districts where ants and other insects are now destroying the trees. It is naturally a tame bird. If well treated it will fly about dooryards and clean the insects from the shade-trees; but it no longer does that in some of the towns along the lake-shore north of Chicago. You may now walk through the five miles of beautiful natural woods which have made Evanston famous and the chance is that you will not see a woodpecker, tho you will not fail to see numerous trees patched with cement to hide holes eaten by insects and fungus. The rifle in the hands of the uncontrolled small boy has done its work. The surviving woodpeckers know better than to venture across the firing-line. For them it is written: 'Abandon hope, all ye who enter here.' A few miles west, beyond easy hiking distance of the youthful gun-carriers, woodpeckers are abundant on the trees and fences, bearing witness to the fact that they have not fled the country entirely, but have fled to zones of safety.



Courtesy of "The Hardwood Record," Chicago.

AN ARGUMENT AGAINST BIRD-KILLING.

The wanton destruction of birds leaves countless insects free to prey upon the trees of our streets, parks, and forests.

"Local instances of bird-destruction and consequent forest deterioration lose much of their general importance if they are found to be only isolated cases. Doubtless many instances like those about the North Shore villages would be revealed by a search throughout the country. In some places game-wardens protect birds; and thereby protect forests; and the boy with his rifle does not have as smooth sailing as he has in some of the high-class residential sections northward from Chicago. Every forester knows, and most people in any way connected with woods or the lumber business know, the incalculable service which birds render the forests by destroying insects. All intelligent farmers know how their crops are benefited by the feathered inhabitants of the fields and thicket. Yet, it appears that there is still room for some primary missionary-work along this line."

BATHS TO EASE PAIN—Another use has been found for the continuous neutral tub bath, says a writer in *Good Health* (Battle Creek, Mich., September). We read:

"At the large open-air hospital connected with the University of Cambridge it was found that many of the patients arriving there had such terrible wounds that the pain made necessary such large and frequent doses of opiates that their progress was seriously retarded. In an attempt to remedy this, Colonel Griffiths now keeps these cases comfortably suspended in a tub through which water at 100° F. is continuously running. One case which is referred to had lain on a rubber mattress in a bath of this character for six weeks, and while for a period before entering the bath the uncontrollable pain from a laceration of the thigh was so great that the officer feared he would go insane, in the bath he had not felt anything worse than the usual discomfort from long confinement in bed."

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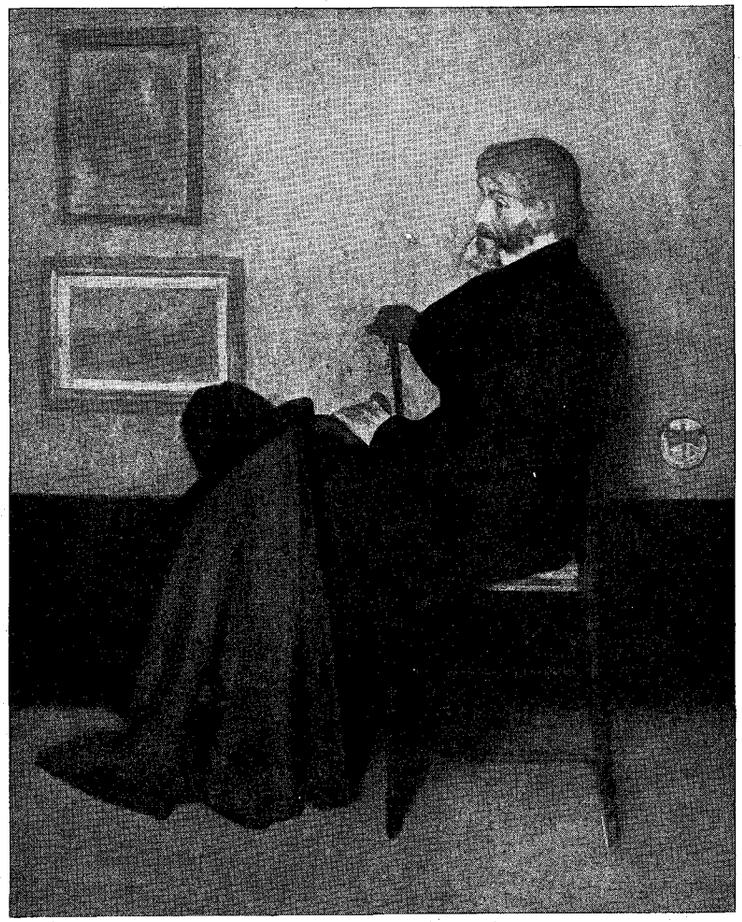
LETTERS - AND - ART

CARLYLE AS A MUSIC CRITIC

AN ECHO out of a distant past is raised for the readers of *The Musical Courier*, and the strangest and least suspected of music critics called upon to testify to the London opera season of 1851. The critic is no other than the "Sage of Chelsea," Thomas Carlyle, who proves himself not insensible to the power of music by calling it "a kind of anarticulate, unfathomable speech, which leads us to the edge of the infinite, and lets us for a moment gaze into that." Amazement, which was the state of mind most frequently indulged in by this dyspeptic Scotsman, was amply evoked by the London opera-house with its "lusters, candelabra, painting, gilding at discretion, a hall as of the Calif Alraschid, or him that commanded the slaves of the lamp; a hall as if fitted up by the genies, regardless of expense—upholstery and the outlay of human capital" which "could do no more." More amazed than by these purely physical phenomena was he by the fact that "artists, too, as they are called, have been got together from the ends of the world, likewise regardless of expense, to do dancing and singing, some of them even geniuses in their craft." What would the singers of our day say to one who thus dissected the Caruso of his?—



WHISTLER'S PORTRAIT OF CARLYLE,

Who went to the opera and heard from the Caruso of his day nothing but "squalling" like "a blind Samson to make the Philistines sport."

"One singer in particular, called Coletti, or some such name, seemed to me, by the cast of his face, by the tone of his voice, by his general bearing, so far as I could read it, to be a man of deep and ardent sensibility, of delicate intuitions, just sympathies, originally an almost poetic soul, or man of genius as we term it, stamped by nature as capable of far other work than squalling here like a blind Samson to make the Philistines sport!"

From the singer Carlyle turns to the ballet, and at least achieves a vivacity that is apparently the despair of our newspaper writers when they essay this revived art:

"The very ballet-girls, with their muslin saucers round them, were perhaps little short of miraculous; whirling and spinning there in strange, made vortexes, and then suddenly fixing themselves motionless, each upon her left or right great toe with the other leg stretched out at an angle of ninety degrees—as if you had suddenly pricked into the floor, by one of their points, a pair, or rather a multitudinous cohort of mad, restlessly jumping and clipping scissors, and so bidden them rest, with opened blades and stand still in the devil's name! A truly notable motion, almost miraculous—perhaps the ugliest and surely one of the most difficult, ever taught a female creature in the world. . . . . .

"One little Cerito, or Taglioni the second, that night when I was there, went bounding from the floor as if she had been made of India-rubber or filled with hydrogen gas, and inclined by positive levity to bolt through the ceiling. Perhaps neither Semiramis nor Catherine II. had bred herself so carefully—some Rossini or Bellini in the rear of it, too—to say nothing of the Stanfields and hosts of scene-painters, machinists, engineers. . . Alas! and all these notable or noticeable human talents and excellent perseverances or energies, backed by mountains of wealth and led by the divine art of music and rhythm vouchsafed by Heaven to them and us, what was to be the issue here this evening? An hour's amusement, not amusing either, but wearisome and dreary, to a high-dizened select populace of male and female persons, who seemed to me not worth much amusing."

Not even the office of the society observer, one delegated by our music critic of to-day to another hand, was disclaimed by Carlyle. One wonders what he might do with the Metropolitan's "diamond horseshoe." Falling back on his classical lore, and invoking muses of music and tragedy, he draws a bitter parallel between the London of his day and the Cyprian city famous for its dissolute worship of Venus:

"Amusement, at any rate, they did not get from Euterpe and Melpomene. These two muses, sent for, regardless of expense, I could see, were but the vehicle of a kind of service which I judged to be Paphian rather. Young beauties of both sexes used their opera-glasses, you could notice, not entirely for looking at the stage. And it must be owned the light in this explosion of all the upholsteries, and the human fine arts and coarse, was magical, and made your fair one an Armida—if you liked her better so. Nay, certain old, improper females of quality in their rouge and jewels, even these looked some reminiscences of enchantment, and I saw this and the other lean domestic dandy with icy smile on his old worn face; this and the other Marquis Singe de Lomme, Prince Mahogany, or the like foreign dignitary, tripping into the boxes of said females,

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grinning there awhile with dyed mustachio and Macassar-oil, gracefully, and then tripping out again—and, in fact, I fancied that Coletti and Cerito and the rhythmic arts were a mere accompaniment here."

The compiler for *The Musical Courier* can stand no more apparently and tries something in the Carlylean vein himself:

"So Carlyle made the profound discovery that the social part of opera was of more importance than the musical, did he? Well, he would very soon discover what would become of grand opera if society, and wealth, foreign dignitaries, young and old dandies, beauty and fashion, quitted the opera-house and left it to the support of intellect and the high-art idealist. We fear that Carlyle and the staff of *The Musical Courier* would find ample space in the Metropolitan Opera-House, even with admission granted to some of the other luminaries of the daily press.

"Giulio Gatti-Casazza and William J. Guard would be huddled together for mutual warmth, or swinging their arms and slapping their chests to ward off the chills.

"Carlyle would not be welcomed. He would decorate the sidewalk together with the ticket-sharks and rail at the passers-by in high-flown metaphor:

"'Your celestial opera-house grows dark and infernal to me! Behind its glitter stalks the shadow of eternal death.'"

THE DOOM OF THE PAPER THRILLER

TIME IS ABOUT TO BE CALLED on *Nick Carter*, the favorite of Paris, *Old Sleuth*, and whole tribes of red skins. The price of paper is mounting so that there's scarcely enough left to sign their death-warrant on. The publishers of paper-backs have been interviewed by a member of the New York *Tribune* staff, and he learns from them that publications of this sort will be suspended in the near future, because they can be issued only at a loss. Bound books will not lead their publishers into bankruptcy, because they are a necessity and their price must consequently be raised. School-books, however, will lose money for their publishers, because hitherto they have brought but a small margin of profit. The *Tribune* writer pictures the long, hard winter in store for the writer of popular fiction — "the kind that comes in paper backs and gives more thrills for a dime than a five-reel movie":

"Picture the author of 'The Perils of Broadway; or, Florette, the Beautiful Cabaret Singer,' toasting his feet before the radiator in his flat and scribbling away at a cent and a half a word.

"'It was a fight to the death,' comes red-hot from his gore-dripping fountain pen. 'Thrusting the girl behind him, *Jack Thornton* faced the oncoming band with a stern, set face. A perilous gleam flashed from his keen eyes. His extended right hand gript a menacing revolver without a tremor. Another moment and they were upon him. Two shots cracked sharply on the still night air'—

"And just then the telephone-bell rings. The sharp voice of the author's publisher rudely interrupts *Jack Thornton's* fight for life.

"'Say, you'll have to cut that stuff short!' he commands. 'The price of print-paper's just shot up another 10 per cent., and we'll have to hold this yarn in a hundred pages. And we'll lose money on it, at that. Marry 'em or kill 'em in the next chapter and wind it up. And, say, by the way, we won't want any more stuff from you. We're going to cut out publishing your line. The price of paper's gone so high we can't make any money on cheap fiction.'

"Sadly the author returns to his scribbling, kills off *Jack Thornton's* enemies with three more shots, throws the marriage halter over *Jack* and *Florette*, writes 'Finis'—and goes out to look for a job."

SHE AMAZED CARLYLE.

Fanny Cerito astounded him by "bounding from the floor as if she had been made of India-rubber or filled with hydrogen gas"—a precursor of Pavlowa, and, alas! "a mere accompaniment" to the fashionable scene.

Devotees of the red-blooded 10 and 15-cent fiction aren't going to be the only sufferers, we are told:

"Books of the better class are going to cost more than they did before. 'Best sellers' that can usually be obtained for $1.10 are going to cost $1.25 this winter, and $1.25 volumes will be boosted to $1.35. The price of the cheaper-bound books will be increased in proportion.

"According to one authority, the cost of book-paper has in some instances increased as much as 100 per cent. in the last few weeks. Newspaper print-paper has gone up 50 per cent.

"'We have made increases of from 5 to 25 per cent. in the list-prices of books published by us this year,' said George H. Doran, head of the publishing firm of that name at 38 West Thirty-second Street recently. 'We have, however, made no increase in the price of books published prior to the recent rise in the cost of paper.

"'While the cost of materials is the principal cause of higher book-prices, I believe it would have been necessary in any event to readjust prices because of the general economic situation. The increased cost of doing business, the necessity of liberal discounts to booksellers, and the general movement resulting from the decreased purchasing power of the dollar are contributory causes.'...

"From Street & Smith, who have given to Young America millions of pages of printed thrills, came the final word on the paper-back novel situation. It is evidently time for *Old Sleuth* and *Nick Carter* and other worthies of that ilk to begin to worry about their future.

"An official of the company said there had been no curtailment of the output of publishers of popular-priced fiction because practically all of them had unexpired contracts for paper-supplies which had been made at reasonable prices. When they are forced to make new contracts, however, the

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cost of production will be so excessive as to preclude the publication of any but bound volumes.

"Magazines will not be so seriously affected, it was explained, because their advertising will make up the difference. But the *James Boys, Old King Brady*, and the other heroes who caused youthful eyes to pop and juvenile hearts to thump in the good old days have no advertisers to help them out."

"LAZY VERSE" ATTACKED AND DEFENDED

"*VERS LIBRE*" is on the defensive. With her numerous raw recruits she, of course, finds also many enemies, or at least challengers. She stands in the first ditch with her cohorts about her and her banner-bearer, Miss Amy Lowell, waving the standard vigorously. She has attracted a new antagonist in Max Eastman, who in *The New Republic* (New York) barbs the shafts of his wit against "the new dilute variety of prosy poetry." He owns to being aware that the science of poetry must take stock of the quantity of free verse now being written, as well as of the fact that "those who so write are most of them convinced that they have gained in freedom and power to convey realizations to the imagination." Mr. Eastman sees the virus of free verse infecting not only the poets, but the prose writers also; and in the latter he finds the same motive as guides magazine editors to "fill prose full of paragraphs and little subheads that have nothing to do with the subject of discussion," but "makes the prose easy to read." All of which he claims is but a "part of the new art of display-advertising," and is a direct "outcome of the fatness of the Sunday newspaper." But poets write free verse for a more complicated series of reasons. Thus:

"It is the aboriginal indolence, which if it had been one ounce heavier would have eliminated the necessity of our writing poetry at all, or doing anything else that pertains to energetic civilization. I am speaking now of the poets who have passion and talent enough to produce in their lifetimes a few gems of concentrated expression, but who have fallen in with the flow of the magazines and accepted their fatal facility as the type of literature in our time. Another side of this question is presented by the fact that free verse advertises the chance of poetic creation to many persons who ache with feelings but lack the agility of wit that metrical and rimed excellence demands. They have gained confidence to express themselves in poetry, and for that all wise lovers of the art will be thankful. But even for them, now they have made the venture, it may be that a more rigorous self-discipline, tho it should not produce so many poems that were 'all right,' would produce lines and passages more adequate to their passion, and more stimulating than mere 'acceptableness' to those who read them. At least it is of dubious benefit to an art that more people should undertake it merely because its difficulties have been relaxed by an easier convention. It used to require a very high combination of faculties of heart and brain, with strong concentration added to these, to make a poem which would endure reading at all. To-day all one has to do is to say something. And any one who has something to say can do that."

Mr. Eastman gives a sample of how it's done by transcribing his reply to a person whom he suspected of "trying to propagate one of those self-advertising schools of poetry." He is thanking the man for sending him an "end-opening note-book" and promising to send in return "small buds of thought and feeling." We quote the second half only of his effort:

I will celebrate the paper that I sing them on,
And ask you, by the muse of mussiness and paleness and decline,
To send me on another note-book, open at the side,
And measuring ten by eight; for ten is not too many inches,
Nor is eight too few,
To plant these boneless syllables, these molluscs of mute nature, on,
These water-fat amorphous multitudes,
In copulating rows that shall regenerate into infinity,
And crowd the world with stringy puddles of inarticulation,
Until red hells of vengeance like the flames of poetry
Arise in revolutionary number,
Purging space and holy nature of this slow and sleep-engendering gangrene.
And sending down to violent oblivion and intense decay,
With one last heaven-searching scream that shall alone remain in memory,
Their pusillanimated authors.

Too much neural excitation and too little of the booming pulse of the blood, thinks Mr. Eastman, are what distinguish this freedom of the new verse from "the freedom of a poet who is lost in a rhapsody of song."

By a chance coincidence the same week brings in *The Dial* (Chicago) a defense of free verse from Miss Lowell, who is looked upon by some as the high priestess of the cult. She writes:

"It is true that *vers libre* could be written as prose; for that matter, so could a sonnet. But the lines are in one, as in the other, a sure guide to the reader. It shows a very slight conversance with the prosodies of other times to consider metrical rimed verse the only form proper to poetry. Doubtless it is this ignorance which has caused so much hysterical fear on the subject.

"That *vers libre* has come to stay is undoubtedly the case. It has been with us for some three hundred years already. The choruses to Milton's 'Samson Agonistes' are in *vers libre*, so is much of Dryden's 'Threnodia Augustalis,' and Blake wrote many of his prophetic books in the form, to say nothing of modern writers, such as Matthew Arnold, W. E. Henley, Francis Thompson, etc.

"A little knowledge of the history of English versification would serve as an anodyne for these agitated conservatives. That *vers libre* will absolutely supersede metrical verse in English poetry is, to say the least, problematic. Art, like life, is subject to evolution; but, also like life, it has a way of returning upon itself after a time. The whole Renaissance movement was merely the result of a renewed interest in, and understanding of, antiquity. Mr. Warner and his ilk should take heart in the thought that possibly in a hundred years or so poets will be rediscovering the sonnet and glorying in its practise.

"But why do people take the trouble to write pages and pages to prove that what is is not, and more, can not possibly be? The word 'poetry' seems to intrigue them. We care nothing for the word; all we are concerned with is the thing. And do these excited gentlemen not realize that for a form of art to rouse them to such vigorous protest can only mean that the movement it represents is instinct with vitality?"

THE ENGLISH LEGEND OF O. HENRY

THE VOGUE OF O. HENRY grows so rapidly in England as to merit a second notice. Reports have it that the sales of his works are swelling into the hundred thousands. *The Morning Post* indignantly declares that the British are not "so benighted" as some Americans—"Mr. Stephen Leacock, the Canadian, among them"—imagine, and that it is untrue that O. Henry's work has until recently been unknown in England. Nor, indeed, have our British cousins been "unacquainted with the legend swelling round his pen-name in the States since his death, five years ago." A first-class short story, we are assured, "can not remain long hid from the world, even in American lingo." This writer goes so far as to suspect that the few tales which in the past recommended themselves to the English reader acquired a juster appreciation by these connoisseurs than "the battalions of his pieces just imported." Yet in spite of the *Morning Post's* protest against the imputation of being unaware of O. Henry's American reputation, Mr. E. V. Lucas appears to imply that he had none at all. At least, Mr. Lucas himself had never heard of him, had never heard an American mention him, and thinks he must have heard them speak of him had they known O. Henry, since Americans, he has observed, are "overproud of their country and its indigenous products and voluble in expressing that pride." Mr. Lucas, not only in *Punch*, but in numerous books, is widely read among us, and his humorous flavor keenly relished. But one wonders if this is a new form of humor he is trying in *The Sphere* (London) when he asks, concerning these Americans so strongly silent about O. Henry: "Could they

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not have known how good he was? . . . Was he a prophet without honor in his own country? And yet, in America, could that be?" Mr. Lucas does not stay to indulge his wonder, but goes on to propose an utterly improbable Kipling "analogy":

"Anyway, I have had to discover O. Henry for myself, if discovery it can be called when every paper has an advertisement of his complete works and every bookstall has a shilling series of him. But having discovered him—we shall let the swaggering word stand—I have been urging him upon my friends with as much assiduity as his friend, Judson Tate, in the story, 'Next to Reading Matter,' recommended his nostrum for the vocal chords. But why was O. Henry's genius never mentioned by any of his countrymen? That is the puzzle! And another mystery is, 'Why were we in England not sooner given the chance to read him? This is the more remarkable, considering how alert, how humorous, how human, how wise and understanding, and, above all, how unfailingly entertaining he is and out for fun, and how very much the reverse are the majority of the novels that cross the Atlantic eastward.

"It is as tho American readers had been denied any knowledge of Mr. Kipling's works until one day some years after he had written his last story, and then the whole harvest was tumbled *en bloc* into their grasping, eager hands. This does not mean that Mr. Kipling and O. Henry are to be paralleled in quality. I merely use the analogy. But as a matter of fact, I can see each of them taking off his hat to the other—and Bret Harte came before both.

"To do O. Henry's work—its variety, its vivacity—any kind of justice, a critic would require much room. In brief space one may say a little. To begin with, one is struck by his spirits, which never flag; by his sympathetic curiosity in his fellow creatures, which never cools; by his vivid observation, which gives him his range of simile; by the abundant richness and vigor of his idiom. But perhaps most of all one is imprest by his quality of excitement. I know of no writer who makes one so tense and restless.

"There seems to be nothing that he had not seen from Texas to New York, so that as one reads one seems to have America before one, its sights and sounds, as never before. All that, however, is only trimming. The man himself is the thing—and it is his mental angle that to me is so fascinating. In every story he is the same—always true to himself; always with pity for the unfortunate, admiration for the brave, and a great humorous interest in the comedy of life and tolerance for the adventurer. Betwixt irony and kindliness he moved, and he exacted a story from every one. I doubt if any one ever found so many stories; it is as tho America was the *Sultan* and O. Henry was a modern *Scheherezade* who must narrate or be executed. I use the comparison with care, for he loved 'The Arabian Nights,' and often refers to them, and to him New York was Bagdad."

A NEW DEVOTEE OF O. HENRY.

Mr. E. V. Lucas, who would like to make a book of "O. Henry's Best."

Well, if any American hasn't heard of O. Henry, it will no longer be Mr. Lucas's fault, and if having heard he fears to mention the fact, he will find an inspiring example in Mr. Lucas, who goes enthusiastically forward:

"And still I have said nothing to indicate what kind of stories O. Henry told. All kinds. And in every one there are strokes which must be looked for. It never does to skip; some are tragic, as 'The Furnished Room'; some comic, as 'The Memoirs of a Yellow Dog'; some farcical, as 'The Ransom of Red Chief'; some idyllic, as 'Springtime à la Carte'; some scornfully satirical, as those championing the underpaid work-girl; some freakishly cynical, as 'A Double-Dyed Deceiver'; but most are, like life, mixed, and all are saturated with humanity. Every story, too, is a short story proper. Many short stories are underwritten novels, just as some novels are overwritten short stories. But O. Henry was a master of the *conte;* he understood its possibilities and limitations, and never transgrest the rules. He often was in a hurry; he often was not able—a defect of a quality—to develop the theme to the very end; but he never abused the medium, and his success, not only in finding plots, but in working a sardonic or sentimental symmetry—often a surprize—into his transcripts, is wonderful.

"What is now needed is a single volume of nuggets dug from the twelve-volume claim. I should like to compile it; but so, I imagine, would every other of his readers. O. Henry is, as I say, always good; there are always phrases, humorous turns, flashes of odd intelligence, the condensed result of years of experience. Every story has one or more of these; but some stories are, as works of art, so immeasurably better than others that one would like them brought together. 'O. Henry's Best' would be a very remarkable thing. Indeed, I don't believe that the best of any other short-story writer would excel it in richness. I have not made my selection yet—there are still (glory be!) two or three of the large volumes still to be opened—but among those stories that could not be omitted are: 'Art and the Bronco,' 'The Handbook of Hymen,' 'The Enchanted Profile,' 'The Last Leaf,' 'The Day Resurgent,' and 'The Third Ingredient.'"

But the English do it generously when they are aroused. The September *Bookman* (London) is an O. Henry number, and Mr. St. John Adcock, in the principal article, makes this humble confession:

"Thousands of us are reading his stories at present and realizing with astonishment that he was a great literary artist—with astonishment because, tho we are only just arriving at this knowledge of him, we learn that he commenced to write before the end of last century, and has been five years dead. Even in America, where he belonged, recognition came to him slowly; it was only toward the close of his life that he began to be counted as anything more than a popular magazine author; but now, in the States, they have sold more than a million copies of his books, his publishers announce in their advertisements that 'up goes the sale of O. Henry, higher and higher every day,' that he has 'beaten the world record for the sale of short stories'; and the critics compete with each other in comparing him to Poe and Bret Harte, to Mark Twain and Dickens, to De Maupassant and Kipling. We can not put ourselves right by saying that he was an American, for in the last few years at least two attempts have been made to introduce him to English readers, and both of them failed. Then a little while ago Mr. Eveleigh Nash embarked on a third attempt and commenced the publication of a uniform edition of the works of O. Henry in twelve three-and-sixpenny volumes. . . . At the present rate of sale, at least half a million copies will have been sold, and one may take it that, at long last, O. Henry is triumphantly entering into his kingdom."

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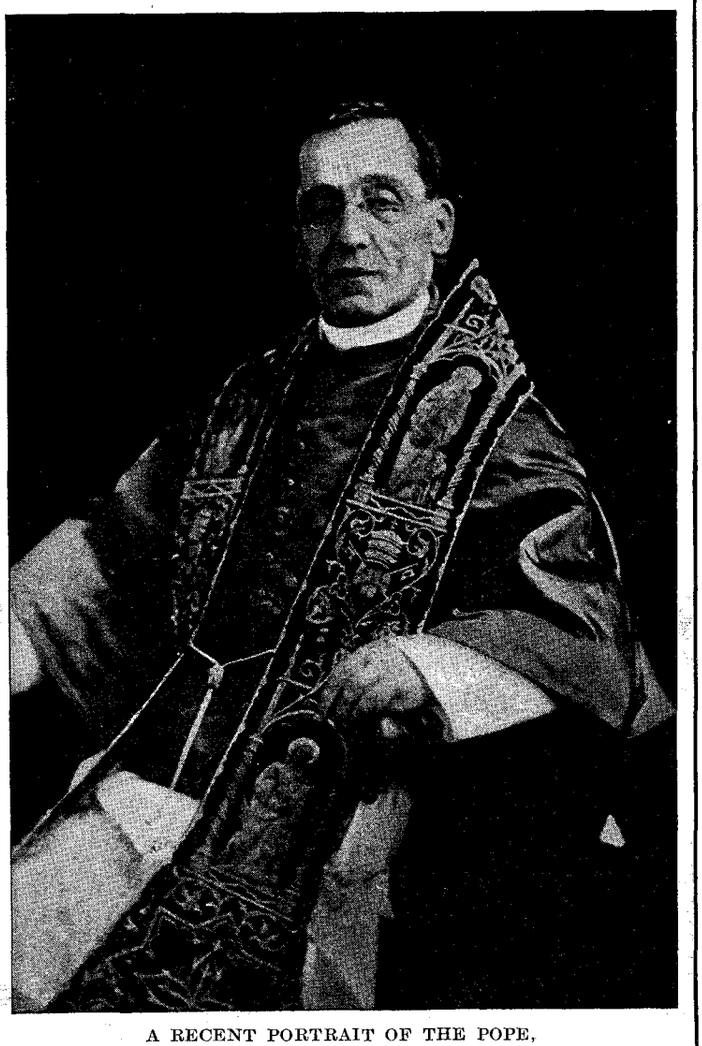
RELIGION-AND-SOCIAL-SERVICE

FOR A NEW PAPAL STATE

A PEACE PROPOSAL which is intended to furnish a basis of agreement between Austria-Hungary and Italy contemplates the creation of the Trentino into a new papal State under the independent sovereignty of the Pope. *The Churchman* (New York) deals with the subject on the authority of a monthly review published in Zurich called *Das Neue Europa*, and sees that the real significance of the article is the fact that the review is really the organ of the Austro-Hungarian Foreign Office. It is pointed out that the two most important questions are the attitudes of the Vatican and Austria to the proposal, and the writer thinks that the Vatican would scarcely reject it, and Austria, "dynastically and constitutionally, would offer no objections." Italy is the only doubtful party to the agreement, and the easy assumption of her enemy is that Italy would "rather see the Trentino an ecclesiastical state than an Austrian province." *The Churchman* continues:

"The article begins by deploring the circumstance that the most neutral of all sovereigns, the Pope, shorn of his temporal power, has lost many neutral prerogatives which would have enabled him to exercise a benevolent influence on the belligerents. To restore the old papal states is impossible. And so the question is, Where could the Pope acquire territory without greatly disturbing the *status quo?* The frontiers of the papal Trentino might be drawn on the north by Mezzolombardo, in the west along the Presanella group, and in the east northward from Val Saugana. The southern frontier might be the present Tyrol border, with Riva and Ala.

"The Vatican would hardly reject such an acquisition of territory and power; it can always decide the abode of the Pope, and his present possessions in Rome could be retained. The creation of such a small temporal ecclesiastical state would actually represent a neutral forum, which might be a blessing to all European countries. The Pope could then, for example, call a council much easier than he can now do in Rome. As regards Austria's attitude in the matter, the article says that the Hapsburgs are perhaps the most loyal dynasty to the Pope in Europe. To them the conversion of the Trentino into an ecclesiastical state would mean no sacrifice. And for the nation it would remove the greatest bone of contention between Austria and Italy. The writer then suggests that in view of the smallness of the country, Austria might retain the postal services in Liechtenstein, and that she might naturally also exercise a certain military protection in this Church state. The subjects of the Pope would, of course, not be required to serve in the Austrian Army, while the Swiss would continue to constitute the personal guard of the Pope, supplemented perhaps by Trentineros."



A RECENT PORTRAIT OF THE POPE,

Whose temporal sovereignty over the Trentino, if it is elevated into a Papal State, is a proposal emanating from Austrian sources.

THE FUTURE CHRISTIANITY

"AMATEUR PROPHETS and moralists," in the phrase of *The Christian Commonwealth* (London), have arisen in great quantities in England, and their principal and emphatic contention is that Christianity has failed in Germany. The writer in this journal of liberal religion, "J. M. T.," does not undertake to hold the brief against his fellow countrymen, but he asks if they dare to say that Christianity has succeeded in England. He wonders if, indeed, they have "ever stopt to think whether what has failed there [Germany] is the same thing that has succeeded here [England], or what relation either of them bears to the Gospel of Jesus Christ." The writer picks up the generally accepted idea that the war is "the result of a self-centered nationalism," and admits that it is right to denounce the view that national safety overrides international morality. But his next sentence is an admonition to Britishers not to suppose that "this view is a private heresy of the Prussians." And he goes further:

"All nationalism is primarily self-centered. Its first aim is mere survival. Its second, third, and fourth may be morality, religion, what you will; but in order to have any of these qualities, it must first exist as a corporate personality. An individual can, and often must, sacrifice his life for a moral principle. But if he is married, it becomes doubtful how far the same motive justifies him in sacrificing his wife and family. And when a million families compose a nation, it is difficult to conceive any cause for which a sovereign or a statesman ought, not merely to risk, but definitely to sacrifice, so rich a personality. Self-preservation is the first law of national life. The German crime, then, is one whose premises we all share, and from whose horrible conclusion we have escaped more by our larger experience of life than by any inherent goodness of character. It would be well if, instead of putting

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us to sleep with the fancy that every Englishman is a hero and every German a villain, our moralists would exhort us to justify our reputation for righteousness, and the trust which other nations put in us, by ordering our own society more fairly and decently, and by championing international justice upon every occasion, not only when it coincides with our own interests. The lessons of victory are less salutary than those of defeat. Let us work for victory; but let us hope that the cost at which it is won may save us from the victor's self-conceit."

He next takes issue with the "moralists" on the point of their contention "that Germany is not really a Christian country, pointing the argument against Protestantism or Liberalism, or Established Religion, according to their own predilections, but always so as to let us suppose (without prejudice to France or Russia) that true Christianity is Anglican." And this clear-sighted Briton wonders if there could be "a more dangerous delusion." For—

"Apart from the facts that no single Church protested against this war, and that the greater part of the German and Austrian armies is of the same Church as the Italian and French, what professedly Christian country can afford to throw stones at another? If an international system based upon war is inconsistent with the teaching of Christ, and if none of us apply his teaching in this respect, is that State more Christian which pretends that it does so than that which admits that it does not? The Gospel, indeed, and the Sermon on the Mount have long since been adapted to the exigencies of international politics. It is not Christianity as such which either we possess or the Germans disown, but a civilized conscience, partly inspired by Christianity. It is civilization that we are fighting for, and for its sheer existence—not because it is, but in order that it may become, Christian. It is essential that our preachers and writers should clear their minds on this point. German theologians, obsessed by their rediscovery of primitive Christianity, have argued that, because the literal teaching of Christ is inapplicable to the modern State, the modern State is outside the range of Christianity. The proper answer to this is not to try to show that Christ himself would have approved of diplomacy, and armaments, and war—provided only they were English; but to insist that international law (backed, if necessary, as it needs must be, by the appeal to force) is the only means by which Christian ethics can be internationalized. We must say plainly that we are not called to apply the Sermon on the Mount directly to a world of which its author never dreamed, but that it is all the more obligatory upon us to uphold the ideal of national righteousness which has been inspired by his principles, and which is as truly a fulfilment of the law of Christ as that was of the law of Moses. The future peace and happiness of the world do not depend—let us be quite sure of this—on the triumph of English or of any other national Christianity, but on the degree in which all the nations of the world are willing to cooperate (even at the sacrifice of their own prejudices) in the extension of international justice and good-will.

"Here arises the third point on which we ask our moralists for rather more candor and clear-sightedness. It is useless to pretend that the defeat of Germany will automatically bring about an era of peace and righteousness. The disease from which Germany is suffering is latent in all of us. The war will leave much new bitterness behind it, to accentuate the old. The best that can be hoped for is that a group of nations sufficiently strong, and sufficiently determined upon peace, will be able to impose arbitration, and other safeguards against war, upon the rest; and that during the breathing-space thus secured a real international conscience may come into being. But there is a danger in expecting too much of human nature as well as in expecting too little. International law, altho it expresses ideals which are partly Christian, falls far short of international Christianity. We must work for it as the practicable, not the perfect ideal. The time is too urgent to be dreaming of Tolstoyan Utopias. We can not tell how Christ would have solved the international problem by going back to the Gospel, but by going forward on the lines which have secured national peace and righteousness, altho to a relative and limited degree, in the past. Most of Christianity is still in the future. Nor can we know what is Christian until we have done what is right.

"It is said, and said truly, that Christianity has not failed, because it has not yet been tried. The complementary truth is that the Christianity which has yet to be tried is a Christianity which can not be tried until the world is fit for it, and can not be understood until it has been tried."

CHURCHES THAT SHOULD QUIT

WALT MASON has satirized the overchurching of some of our communities in a way to win the applause of the editor of *The Continent* (Chicago) and to furnish him with a text for brief discussion of the reasons for this not uncommon situation. According to the Presbyterian editor the trouble lies in denominational pride, which becomes merely an unreasonable denominational prejudice. Several denominations plant churches in a new community, each hoping that its own organization may be the one to flourish. Then the less flourishing competitors refuse to give up the struggle which ensues, because it is too hard on denominational pride to say, "Our church in that town died out." So we have a situation which the homespun Kansan philosopher thus describes in one of his rimed prose paragraphs:

"In Pumpkinville the fourteen churches have no support that's strong and stout, and all the time the village searches its clothes for coins to help them out. The pastors go upon their uppers; they're hungry-looking men and lean, as they arrange for chicken suppers to pay for coal and kerosene. They can't put much into a sermon, not much of eloquence or vim, with each so poor he can't determine just when the poor-farm will get him. The churchyards all are rank and weedy, for none will pay to mow the grass; the churches all look frayed and seedy—they're needing paint and window-glass. In Pumpkinville one church might flourish and be a prosperous concern, and there'd be wealth its work to nourish while yet the lamp holds out to burn. . . . But Pumpkinville has fourteen churches, and each is poorer than the rest, and evermore the village searches for pennies for them in its vest."

Why, asks the *Continent's* editor, do these church bodies hold on so persistently? This is the explanation which he offers:

"The thing which counts for the persistence of tiny, unprosperous churches of many denominations in towns unable or unwilling to support them, is sheerly an unreasoning denominational pride set on having the reputation of being 'strong in that region.'

"The process begins in the settlement period of a particular area. Denominational leaders say to themselves: 'See all those new towns growing up. It's the chance of a lifetime for our Church. We mustn't let other denominations monopolize such territory.'

"So denominational ambition—the eagerness to make a showing of expansion—prompts an absolutely unforeseeing and reckless planting of new organizations in all the towns that show the least promise of development.

"Every denomination goes into a blind gamble that in a situation where some one church will likely win out to self-supporting strength its tiny seedling may possibly be the fortunate competitor.

"What denominational pride plants, however, denominational pride carries on regardless of the outcome. The gamble may go quite the wrong way; for a particular church the history of a few years may demonstrate that there is no constituency available that affords it the least hope of success. But it would be too humiliating for the denomination concerned to confess openly this obvious fact. The organization must be kept going in spite of all costs, lest dissolution should lead the public to think the denomination is slipping back and losing heart.

"Thus the initial scramble for points of vantage in a freshly occupied scope of country becomes, through the operation of ecclesiastical vanity, a heritage of embarrassment that can never be shaken off.

"No matter how many generations elapse from the original settlement, the bane of that first ungoverned competition hangs still over towns affected by it, just because it is deemed more than a self-respecting Christian body can endure to say, 'Our Church in that town died out.'

"And this wider denominational pride is reenforced by a local spirit of similar quality. Residents who have enlisted in a congregation of a certain name feel that they would be forever shamed among their neighbors if they gave up their independent church-life and joined another people more successful than they.

"What all would gain in the respect of the world by renouncing selfish denominational considerations and by putting the interest of the whole church ahead of the interest of any branch, would be an invaluable capitalization of public good-will.

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'The most forcible means to impress on people this nobler way is to expose the ignoble way now followed—to riddle the foolish notion that the present policy of stubborn holding fast enchances the repute of either churches or churchmen. And that is the service which our Kansas poetizer does. . . . . .

"Cartoon tho it is, the lines of the picture are scarcely exaggerated—churches held in contempt because they are never half so earnest in anything else as they are in the hooks and crooks that beguile cash from the people; pastors so bothered about finances that they can't really put their minds fully on any higher things; church properties forever looking forlorn and unkempt, so that town pride in them is impossible; the whole institution of the church cheapened by its cheap and beggarly struggle for a sordid existence. This is precisely 'the state of the church' in thousands of towns.

"Certainly the real honor for true Christians in such a struggle is not in 'perseverance of the saints,' but in 'surrender at discretion.'"

ITALY'S WAR-RELIGION

THE RELIGIOUS TEMPER of the warring nations, whether static or dynamic, has been the study of a good many writers, and we have frequently dealt with the three leading combatants from this angle. Italy being a later comer into the fray has only lately been studied in this respect. The matter is taken up by Father Gemelli, who is described as a mixture of the man of thought and the man of action. He holds a chair in the University of Turin, and is both physician and psychologist, but at present holds the post of military almoner. He is, therefore, well placed to conduct an inquiry into the question of the war's influence on Italy's religious life—whether the men in the army will evince a revival of the religious spirit in the face of these extra hazards. His discussion of the subject in his own review, *Vita e Pensiero* (Life and Thought), is summarized in the *Bibliothèque Universelle* (Lausanne), from which we quote:

"For his own part the learned brother has recognized sincerely in a lecture on the mentality of the soldier that there can be no talk of a 'revival,' in the true sense of the word, in Italy. The Italian soldier preserves the attitude and habits of normal times in the domain of religion, when serving beneath his country's flag. There is something more of fervor, but the difference is purely quantitative. He attends mass devoutly, he receives the sacraments, he wears the blessed medal hung upon him by mother or wife on the eve of his departure. It is probable that many of them say their prayers more regularly and forget less often to make the sign of the cross at morning and night—practises both moving and efficacious, for they are certainly sincere in moments like these, but practises, also, which are very far from that mystic exaltation of which there have been, and now are, so many examples elsewhere, especially in France.

"We need feel no astonishment at this. The religion of the Italian people forms a sentiment which in the ignorant, touches on superstition and is sometimes confounded therewith, and which in men like Dante and Alessandro Manzoni, may become a very elevated ideal and a shining line of conduct for life. But it never attains the degree of passion in any one, or, at least, in very few. Of all the European nations Italy possesses the most even and tranquil religious history.

"We find in Italy neither great heresies, as in the nations of the North or of the Orient; nor wars of faith, as in Germany, Switzerland, France; nor measures of theologic repression, as in Spain.

"But it would be a great error to try to explain this placidity by attributing to the Italian people a cold indifference toward the great mystery of life and death. Every people has its own fashion of comprehending and feeling things divine. It manifests its conception of them by certain forms suited to itself. Apropos of this, I believe that Luigi Luzzatti is perfectly correct in reaffirming an idea of Strauss that the Italians and the French, when they cease to be believers, do not fall into a frivolous atheism, but turn, the former to Humanism, and the latter to the Rights of Man. It might be equally sustained that the religion of the Italians has always, even when confined in the most rigorous limits of dogma and cult, had a pronounced humanist character and has constantly kept its windows open on the one side to the esthetic, on the other to the moral."

SING SING'S NEW VOCABULARY

THE REFORMATION that has taken place "in the last two years in the vocabulary used by the community of Sing Sing" is set down by the editor of the prison's *Mutual Welfare League Bulletin* as something "amazing." Under the Osborne régime, we are told, the "old-system" vocabulary is gradually but surely dying away, so that the questions, "What's your number?" "Where do you lock?" are seldom heard now. Of course, old-timers find it hard to break their conversational habit. But the prison editor is greatly encouraged by this symptom of increasing self-respect, saying:

"As the 'stripes' have given way to the neat dark 'gray,' so has our 'vocabulary' improved to such an extent as to allow our conversation to be understood by the average intelligent person.

"It is mainly through the kind and humane treatment of the present Administration, to say nothing of 'The Mutual Welfare League' and the courtesy of 'department heads' of the various departments, that we are enabled to see this new light.

"The educational department of both the day and evening classes has had a lot to do with this.

"Through the broadening of the minds of our less intelligent members foul and abusive language has steadily decreased.

"The other day I was asked by one of my pupils to read a note for him that he had received from 'the Warden's' office, it commenced, 'Dear Sir'!

"I doubt if any one had ever addrest him as such before.

"Who would have thought five years ago of an official addressing an inmate as 'Dear Sir'?

"The action speaks for itself.

"Formerly, the first question asked of a new comer was 'What did you draw?' and the answer was generally a 'Fünf.'"

"We must bear in mind at all times," continues the writer, "that we have a very retrogressive public to convince"; "let us therefore banish these 'old Bastile' phrases and with renewed vigor prepare ourselves for the brighter day to come."

The editor of *The Bulletin*, comments the New York *Evening Post*, really did not have to go outside his own bailiwick to prove that "the lingo of the Bastile is no more." For *The Evening Post* calls attention to an account of an address of Warden Osborne, contributed by one of those present to the same issue of *The Bulletin*, which contains the following:

"Much serviceable reflection and determination resulted from his elucidation of a collectivity of facts relative to the cultivation and development of both moral and intellectual principle which he referred to as the necessary adjunct and indispensable prerequisite for the final solution of the problems confronting us after prison."

"What further demonstration is necessary to establish the soundness of the editor's contention?" asks *The Evening Post*.

INEFFICIENT SUNDAY-SCHOOLS—An "efficiency expert" for the Protestant Sunday-schools of New York, Mr. Herbert L. Hill, recently laid the responsibility for decreasing attendance and membership in Protestant Churches to the inefficient management of Sunday-schools. "The average effort required to get one person into church membership," the New York *Times* quotes him as saying, "takes the combined services of seventeen officials of churches, Christian societies, or teachers." Of New York, he says:

"We really have the hardest problem in this city to be found in any city of the world. I believe no other place on earth has similar conditions and influences which keep children away from the Sunday-schools. In the past parents made it a custom to talk with their children of their Sunday-school studies. Times have changed. This instruction is now put up to the Sunday-school teachers, who must assume the responsibility. To-day many parents make no effort to have their children attend Sunday-school, yet the Sunday-school is the fundamental and very foundation of Christian development on which the churches must depend. Some reason for the difficulties here are found in the mixture of nationalities, and many peculiar attractions of a big city not to be met with in many other places."

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CURRENT POETRY

A YEAR ago Edmund Leamy was becoming widely known to readers of American magazines as a writer of graceful and witty light verse. Recently Mr. Leamy's work has been missing in the periodicals. This is explained by the fact that he has left the United States and is now staying in Central Africa. A recent issue of the New York *Evening Sun* contains the following stanzas—characteristically musical and colorful, and vibrant with sincere emotion.

VISIONS

BY EDMUND LEAMY

I never watch the sun set adown the Western skies
But that within its wonderness I see my mother's eyes;
I never hear the West wind sob softly in the trees
But that there comes her broken call far o'er the distant seas;
And never shine the dim stars but that my heart would go
Away and back to olden lands and dreams of long ago.

A rover of the wide world, when yet my heart was young
The sea came whispering to me in well-beloved tongue;
And, oh, the promises she held of golden lands agleam
That clung about my boy-heart and filled mine eyes with dream;
And Wanderlust came luring me till 'neath the stars I swore
That I would be a wanderer for ever, evermore.

A rover of the wide world, I've seen the Northern lights
Aflashing countless colors in the knife-cold wintry nights;
I've watched the Southern Cross ablaze o'er smiling, sunny lands,
And seen the lazy sea caress palm-sheltered silver sands;
Still wild unrest is scourging me, the Wanderlust of yore,
And I must be a wanderer for ever, evermore.

And yet I see the sun set adown the Western skies
And glimpse within the wonderness my mother's pleading eyes;
And yet I hear the West wind sob softly in the trees,
That vainly cloaks her broken call far o'er the distant seas;
And still, when shine the dim stars, my wander heart would go
Away and back to her side, and dreams of long ago.

The London *Punch* continues to print exquisite light verse, phrased with consummate artistry and as gay as if there were no war. Here we find lovely variations on a most ancient theme. Austin Dobson's touch is no more delicate and sure than that of the author of these lines.

A FANTASY

If you were a white rose Columbine
And I were a Harlequin,
I'd leap and sway on my spangled hips
And blow you a kiss with my finger-tips
To woo a smile to your petal lips
At every glittering spin.

If I were a pig-tailed Buccaneer
And you were a Bristol Girl,
Arolling home from over the sea
I'd give you a hug on the landing-quay,
A hook-nosed parrot that swore like me,
And a brooch of mother-o'-pearl.

If you were a Donna of old Castile
And a Troubadour were I,

One more "helper"

And it simplifies the whole problem

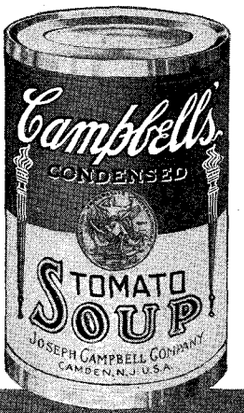
Every time you use *Campbell's Tomato Soup* on your table, you not only make the meal more enjoyable and inviting, but you lighten the burden of household cares.

Think how often you avoid unnecessary labor and fussing and delay by the use of

Campbell's Tomato Soup

On wash-day, ironing-day, house-cleaning days — the maid is doubly pleased at the suggestion of this favorite Campbell "kind," so refreshing and sustaining; so easy to serve.

On the maid's day out what a satisfaction it is to have this wholesome dinner-course ready to your hand without the slightest worry or uncertainty. And what a help in tiding over those more or less protracted intervals when you are without a maid and cannot discover one with a search warrant.



Eating a good soup regularly as a part of the daily menu is so important that it is almost a vital factor in the health and well-being of every household.

Your whole family will gain in strength and vitality by the use of this nourishing soup on your table every day.

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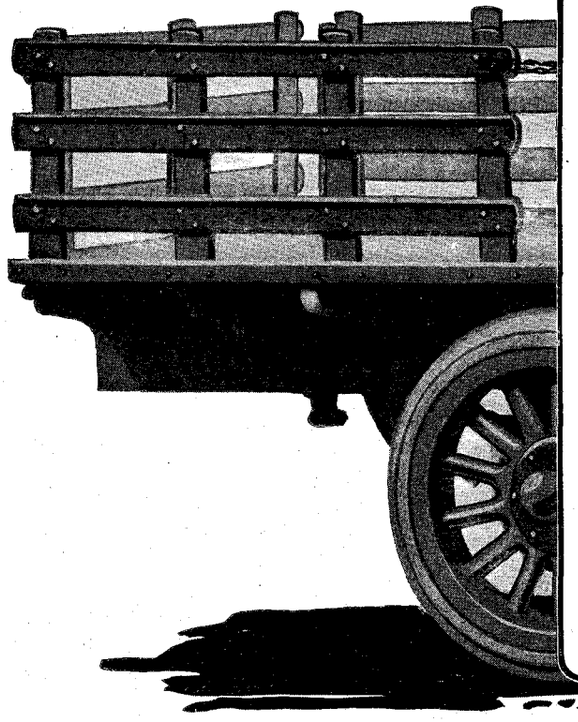

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THE SAME EXPERIENCE—the same e
standards and the same Good Intent that
quality into Reo cars have contributed to th
of Reo motor trucks.

TAKE THIS GREAT REO 2-Ton truck for ex

IT HAS BEEN STANDARD in its present
longer than any other 2-Ton truck so far as we

REASON—IT WAS RIGHT from the beginning
was right. Proportions were right. It was
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AND FROM THE FIRST it was priced, not
were, but on cost plus a small profit—and th
less because of Reo factory facilities and Reo K

EXPERIMENT entered into its construction
Reo engineers knew then, just as they know no
from year to year this Reo 2-Ton truck has gro
esteem of users.

TWO YEARS AGO we felt we had developer
model that would fill another and a larger field

WE CALLED IT the ¾-Ton Reo "Speed
because it was designed for carrying loads u
pounds at higher speeds than was practical o
or needful in the larger truck.

THAT 1500-POUND REO HAS made good in
of lines of business. Seems as if there's almos
to its adaptability and usefulness.

DEMAND IS UNPRECEDENTED—orders
model must be placed well in advance to insur
at all.

AND THE REASON IS REO QUALITY as
the wonderful consistency in performance and
unbelievably low cost of operation and upkeep

YOUR NEAREST REO DEALER will show
explain the points of either Reo truck model.
owner or driver will endorse every word the deal

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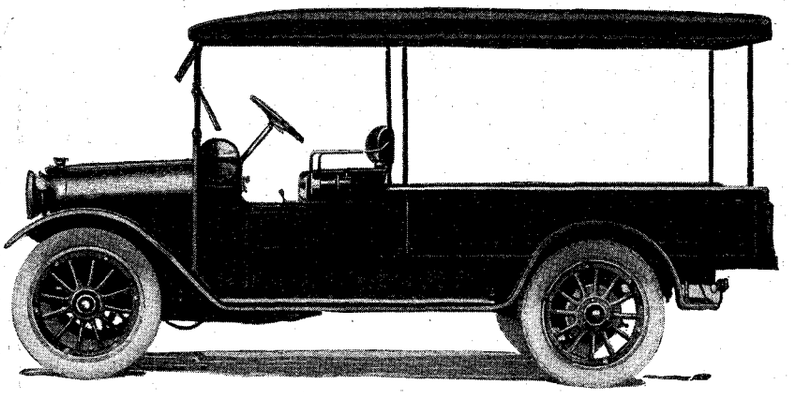

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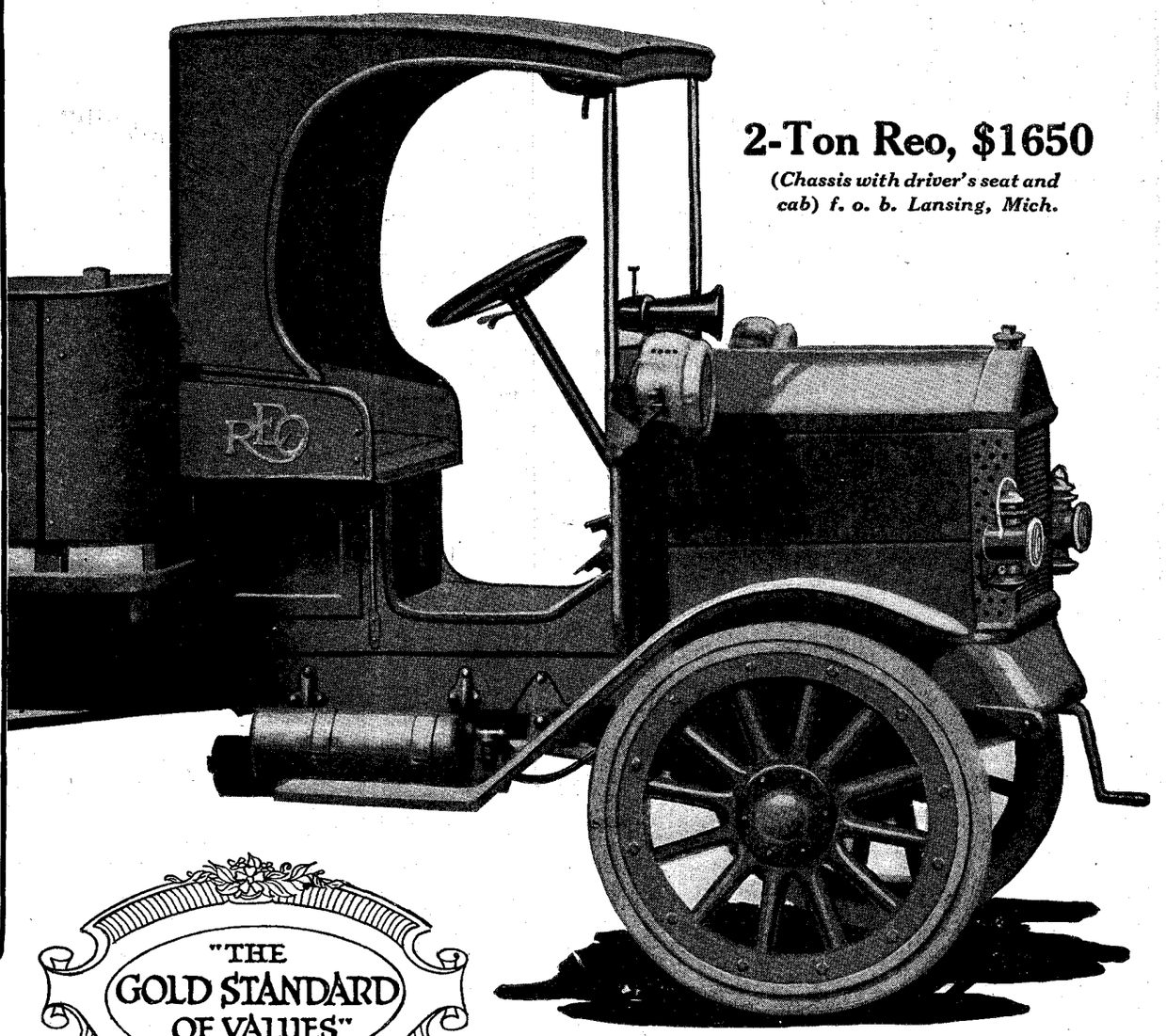

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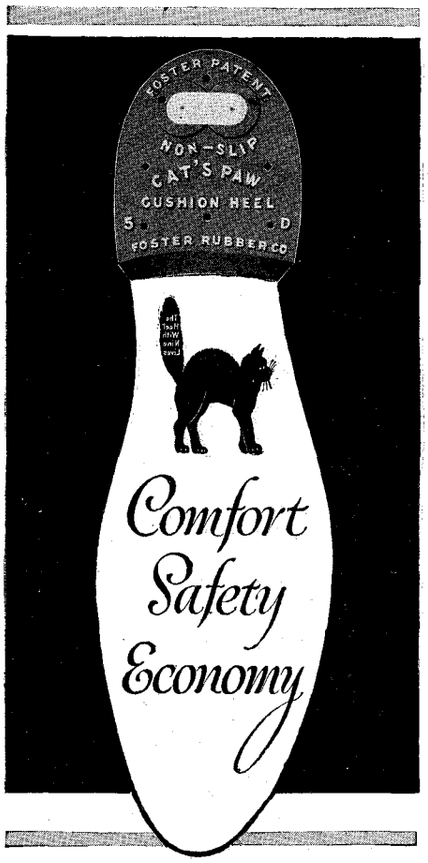

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And weave you dreams in a minstrel's loom
With rainbow tears and the roses' bloom
And star-shine out of the sky.

If I were a powdered Exquisite
And you were a fair Bellairs,
I'd press your hand in the gay pavane
And whisper under your painted fan
As I bowed you into your blue sedan
At the old Assembly stairs.

If you were a Watteau Shepherdess
And I were a gipsy lad,
I'd teach you tunes that the blackbird trills
And show you the dance of the daffodils,
The white moon rising over the hills,
And Night in her jewels clad.

If you were the Queen of Make-believe
And I were a Prince o' Dream,
We'd dress the world in a rich romance
With Pans apiping and Queens that dance,
With plume and mantle and rapier-glance
And Beauty's eyes agleam.

If I were a Poet, sweet, my own,
And you were my Lady true,
I'd hymn your praise by night and morn
With golden notes through a silver horn
That unborn men in an age unborn
Might glow with a dream of you!

Here is one of Miss Margaret Widdemer's brilliant little studies of emotional moods. The last line is perhaps overemphatic, but the poem as a whole is interesting and vivid, and the colloquial style is excellently suited for the simple rhythm. We take the poem from *Harper's Magazine*.

TEA

By Margaret Widdemer

They've flowers and cakes and candle-light, and chair by crowded chair,
And I am very sweet and kind because I do not care.
I think that I am hoping still if I am very good
And talk to these around me as a courteous lady should,
The room will softly split across, and roll to left and right,
With all its smiling pasteboard folks and colored things and light,
And let me run into the grass and climb a sunset hill
And find three hours, one year ago, when I was living still.

Also from *Harper's Magazine* we take this gravely beautiful poem. As in most of his work, Mr. Sterling gives his lines special force by the dignity and restraint of his manner.

TRANSMUTATION

By George Sterling

I said: "O Beauty, Beauty yet to be,
Where sleep thy faint beginnings? On what sky
Shall one behold thy wings afar and shy?
What realm is thine by what unsounded sea?"

From out the dust my soul a murmur found:
"Thou treadest me, O questioner! The flow'r
Abides below thy foot her fragrant hour,
And I shall weave my raiment of the ground."

From somber skies the softer tidings came:
"Of these gray mists the wind shall rear my throne,
In lands of sunset where I wait alone
And clasp the lilies of a fading flame."

From out a stagnant pool a whisper crept:
"Hidden am I. Thou seekest me in vain;
Yet shall I find the silvern veils of rain
And arch the rainbow when the day has wept."

And then her voice in wider music rang:
"In all that seems to-day most far from me
I slumber, till to-morrow's eyes shall see
The face thy harps of yestereven sang."

Not long ago we mentioned the fact that Mr. Alfred Noyes is almost the only living poet who may be said to have founded a school. One of his most accomplished disciples is Mr. William Rose Benét, who contributes to the current issue of *Contemporary Verse* this gay and richly colored idealization of a poor merchant of the city streets. Would the gods forget their ambrosia and nectar for the sake of the push-cart's somewhat battered treasures? We think so, at least while we are reading Mr. Benét's lines.

THE PUSH-CART

By William Rose Benét

Colors like cries of delight from the lips of a child
Leapt from a cart by the curb of a corner I passed,
The oars of a golden galley dipt swirling through seas
Of azure and opal. The ancient Hesperides
Lifted for landfall, and loud with the heroes I laughed!

Blinded by blue we staggered ashore on a strand
Of golden sand to the gorgeous gardens their gate,
Where beautiful birds trilled embowered—but bright in midsward,
Burnished of scale and claw, crouched Ladon, to guard
The Fruit and the footing of maidens that minstreled its fate.
And, dispersing this dream, still another—bright Bagdad's bazaars
With the slow-footed camels from Yemen that languidly glide,
And, in turban and caftan, some retinue of the viziers,
Black eunuchs with simitars, guards with their glimmering spears
Round the litters of houris close-veiled to the harem who ride

Where some banquet is spread to bedazzle the eyes of a jinn,
Where the hues of piled peaches, of apricots, pomegranates, plums,
And oranges, flicker like heaps of such jewels as blazed
From Sinbad's deep Valley of Diamonds, turning him crazed! . . .
Giant blacks draw the curtains apart—and the great Calif comes!

Old proser in charge of your push-cart—ye gods, if you knew
The grandeurs of purple and gold and rich crimson you sell
"Two for five—three for five," with a grin and a greasy swart hand,
As you chatter and shrug with that boy of the boot-blacking stand—
Why, your button-black eyes would grow bulging! . . . Perhaps 'tis as well!

You'd be sure to go treading on clouds till, like him on the Field
Of Mars, that a cloud took and rapt from the sight of his age,
You were snatched to Olympus, and, mopping your oily brown brow,
Wheeled your cart up the heights where the White Ones abide even now—
Till, at sight of you, gaily they sped Ganymede as a page

And haled you before them! Ambrosia and nectar forgot
I can see them uprisen as one all to pillage your trove.
Now, superb o'er your overturned cart (having feasted their fill)
They are pelting each other with splendors adown the green hill,
They are chairing you up to a seat between Juno and Jove!

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PERSONAL GLIMPSES

OUR FIRST JAPANESE INVASION

THE plaintive warnings of the jingoes have at last come true. Japan has invaded America. It is not because she has succeeded in placing herself at the head of the manufacturers of Swedish safety-matches since the war opened—the safety-matches are coming in avalanches from the Land of the Rising Sun, all carefully packed in thin wood boxes bearing labels printed in Swedish tongue; but it is in another kind of match that Japan has triumphed over our country. If the pleasantry is pardonable, the matches are—tennis matches.

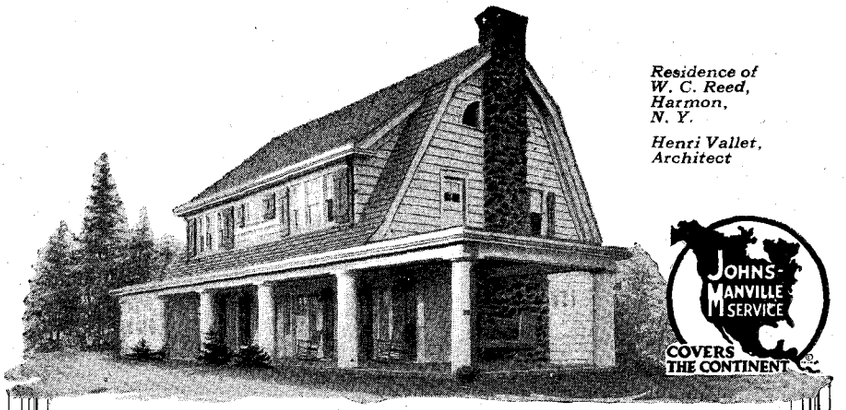
People found that they liked Ichiya Kumagae. He, as you will learn later, came from the coal country of Japan, by way of Manila, where he bested every one they could put up against him. After various vicissitudes in America he won the Newport tournament by a brilliant victory over Johnston, then national champion, and some thought he might win the national championship at Forest Hills. But there he did not even reach the semi-finals and was defeated by Church. Defeats are always educational, however, and the son of Nippon may prove even more dangerous next year. After he beat Johnston, the New York *World* commented:

A week ago no one would have foretold that Ichiya Kumagae would fight his way through the long list of contestants on the Newport Casino tennis-courts, and end with a brilliant victory over William M. Johnston, the national singles champion. But to-day the feat is recorded in tennis history. Every year produces its surprizes. If it were not that a newcomer suddenly disputes the chosen winner's title to supremacy, interest in the sport would flag. Kumagae is the surprize of 1916. Wherever he plays he will be watched as a possible champion.

Until a short time ago Kumagae had played little tennis with first-rank men. From Japan and Manila to Forest Hills and Newport is a long jump. It is not easy to explain how in a very few years he mastered the game so as to overcome men like Johnston, Williams, and Griffin, but the last week at Newport renders explanations useless. He won the Casino Cup, and Newport has had its sensation. From now on Kumagae and Japan will have plenty of backers against the field.

And so the New York *Tribune*, keeping pace with new sensations, got a countryman of the little Nipponese to write up an account of him. And from that we get many interesting and amusing items about the latest addition to the tennis-world. We learn, for instance:

Until his freshman year at Keiwo University in Tokyo—one of the three great private universities of the empire—he had never seen a real racket or a real tennis-ball. He had toyed with large, uncovered rubber balls, such as children



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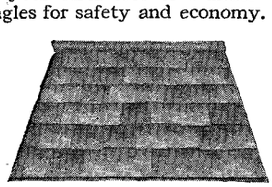

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play with on sidewalks in America, and with many a made-in-Japan racket as flabby as a fat man. But that was all. Kumagae graduated from the Keiwo this year; therefore, his tennis career is a wee thing of four years' fostering. It is even shorter than that—to make a sensational story still more unbelievable. For it was in the early summer of 1913 that Kumagae took up the game seriously with a real racket and tested it and his muscles on real tennis-balls with covers on them. And precisely seven months after that he went down to Manila to compete in the open tournament for the championship of the Orient.

He went down with the profound conviction of being the joke of the tournament. To be sure, there could not have been any other view for an aspirant of seven months' experience to take. Still, he had played and beaten men in the Tokyo Club, and his admirers, most of them quite as young as himself, gave him an earful of high-temperatured air lest he come home from Manila with a tale "How the Jelly-Fish Lost His Bones," a perfectly good tale and a prime favorite in the nurseries of Nippon, but one with which his friends did not wish to make a big hit with young Kumagae in the critical hours awaiting him at Manila.

At Manila he did pretty well. His success should have astounded him. I do not know whether it did or not.

On Friday, the 9th of January, he met . . . . . .

But let us pause right here—not for a reply, but just to let Kumagae put a white stone upon that day—for on that day he met Fottrell, of San Francisco, in the semifinal round of the tournament.

To everybody familiar with Fottrell's play the showing which a Japanese boy after seven months of real tennis practise made against him sounds not merely wonderful; it sounds like a dime-novel yarn or a joke of a hard-up comic supplement. Fottrell might have had a sunstroke on the day when he played Kumagae. That would have explained a trifle. But, unfortunately for the easy solution of the puzzle, Kumagae played an exhibition match against none other than the present national champion of the United States, William M. Johnston, who had defeated Fottrell in the final of the tournament, winning the Championship of the Orient, the day before.

The exhibition match was played on the day following the close of the tournament, and Kumagae "forced the champion to a four-set match, three sets of which went beyond deuce." And that was the first tournament wherein Kumagae played.

I said to Kumagae a few days ago:

"And how did you feel when you went against real tennis at Manila for the first time in your young life?"

"I never learned so much in my life as I did then," said he.

His modesty was offensive. I wouldn't have stood anything of the sort from an American. But I remembered that he was from Nippon; that I was from there, too, originally, altho it is a standing wonder to myself how I do forget the land of my birth and its gentle manners. So I forgave him. I didn't even waste my breath in reminding him that Kumagae himself had had a stiff match in the morning that day before meeting Niles.

But *hana yori dango;* rather than the flower of modest adjectives, almost any

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chronicler or critic would taste the dumpling of actual test and personal observation.

The account runs on to include a tale of the celebrated game between Kumagae and Murray, the American, at the Crescent Athletic Club courts in Brooklyn. We are told of a crucial point in the play where there was doubt about a decision, and the tall American was the only man who saw what had really happened. The umpire gave the point to Murray, who gravely protested it at once. Not melodramatically, we are told, but firmly. He was playing a fair game. The reporter concludes:

The umpire was helpless. The point went to Kumagae.

I do not know just how this incident affected the American spectators. To a little group of us heathen it was no longer a mere game of tennis we were looking at. I was sitting next to a young man who graduated from the same university in Tokyo as Kumagae did and in the same class with him. He will enter Harvard this fall.

"*Domo kanshin desu ne!*" said he to me. "We may brag as much as we please about what we can do in Japan. But . . . but that is beyond us. There is a bigness about the American that dwarfs us."

He was not talking about six-foot and some inches of Murray's altitude either: he was simply overwhelmed with the splendor and majesty of the "American sense of fair play."

And who shall say just how far this sort of thing would not go? This single incident made an impression upon the young Japanese student which the Declaration of Independence and the Sermon on the Mount repeated by a thousand missionaries to Japan could never make—not in a thousand years.

Having this sort of thing in mind, I asked Kumagae how he had been treated since he came to America.

He grinned in answer.

"Of course, I had heard a lot about the American sportsman before I sailed," said he; "his sense of fair play and square deal, and all that, you know. The American doesn't play fair at all, as a matter of fact. He cheats himself right along. The sternest knocker of the American is the American. American spectators seem to be always hunting for the smallest excuse to applaud my play. Most certainly they applaud me ten times more than they applaud the play of any of their own countrymen. You know things are not like that in Japan. When I played Mr. Griffin at the Tokyo Club the crowd did applaud some exceptional exhibitions of Mr. Griffin's skill. But it seemed to go hard with the crowd to do so. Here I always get the benefit of a doubtful point. I do not speak English well: I do not wish to make myself ridiculous in protesting. But I feel like doing it often."

Besides tennis, he is doing corking good work in another line. He is showing some of our good American friends that the Japanese are not altogether a race of spies and sneak-thieves, wife-beaters, infantile-paralysis incubators, liars and donkeys, and enthusiastic lunatics, as the Hearst papers are telling millions of Americans almost every day. He has shown himself a human being—just a human boy.

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Premium Ham Shank with Spinach

Wash ham and spinach carefully. Boil ham slowly about two hours and add spinach. Boil rapidly for about thirty minutes. Serve separately and garnish spinach with hard-boiled egg.

Premium Ham Baked with Tomatoes and Onions

1 center slice of ham, 3/4 to one inch thick
3 medium sized tomatoes
3 medium sized onions

Lay ham in baking pan. Slice first the onions and then the tomatoes on top until thickly covered. Add one cup of water and bake one hour, basting frequently with juice in pan.

Premium Ham Baked with Apples

1 center slice ham, about 3/4 of an inch thick. Cut off the fat and put (fat) through grinder. Spread on ham and cover all with brown sugar. Core apples and season with sugar and spice, put in pan and add 1/2 cup water. Bake in a very slow oven about fifty minutes.

Creamed Premium Ham on Toast

2 tablespoonfuls butter
1/4 teaspoonful salt
1 1/2 cups chopped cooked ham (baked or boiled)
2 hard boiled eggs—sliced
2 tablespoonfuls flour
Pepper
1 cup milk

Melt butter and stir in flour without browning. Remove from fire and add milk and seasoning, stirring well. Return to fire and cook until creamy. Add ham and hard boiled eggs. Serve on toast.

Premium Ham Baked with Macaroni

1 cup of Macaroni broken in small pieces
1/2 cup of grated cheese
1 cup chopped cooked ham (baked or boiled)
1 tablespoonful of chopped onion, salt and paprika
1 cup milk

Boil macaroni in salted water until tender. Drain, rinse with cold water. Add grated cheese, milk, and season with salt and paprika. Fry onion in a little ham fat, add chopped ham. Mix well with macaroni, turn into well-buttered baking dish. Cover with bread crumbs and bake until brown.

Baked Premium Ham

Put a Ham butt in cold water, then boil slowly (one-half hour for each pound), changing the water when half done.

Remove the rind, and insert cloves in the soft fat, cover thickly with brown sugar. Place in a baking dish with water, and bake for one-half hour.

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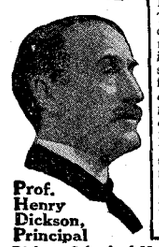

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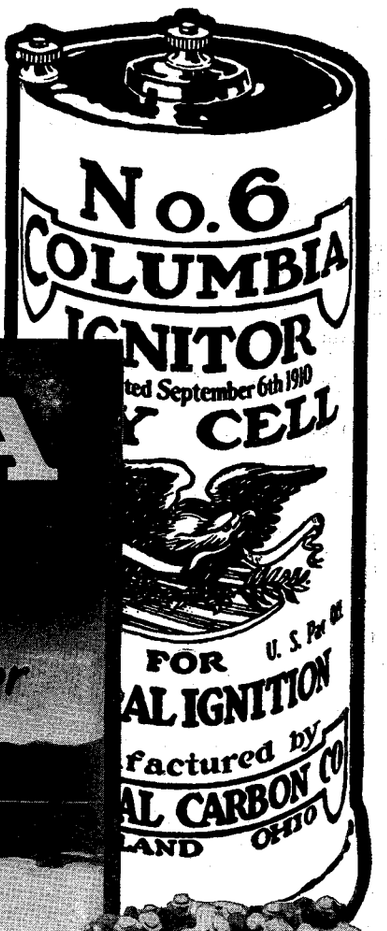

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AIR-MONSTERS IN THEIR LAIR

BOOM! A dull report from the distant buildings clustered at the end of Battersea Bridge, a gleam of sudden flame across the sky, and the spitfire of anti-aircraft guns from all corners of the compass at once. It is another *Zeppelin*-raid on London. Overhead there is a crisscross of beams of white fire where the search-lights are groping in the black sky. Then we catch a glimpse of a long, silver-gray cocoon hovering far overhead.

Where do these night-hornets come from? Where do they stay in the daytime? The Allies send their trig little air-scouts out after them, but only rarely do we ever hear of any of the air-ships being found and destroyed. A correspondent for the New York *Times* relates how a German author is about to publish a war book giving the public its first glimpse of the German air-fleet, which he visited personally a short time ago. Here is part of his account of the swarm of monsters lying in readiness to sweep down on Albion the next dark night and play havoc with sleeping cities. We read:

Somewhere amid the white sand-dunes and the salt-meadow weeds dwell the mariners of the air who have brought some notion to Albion that it is no longer an island. I was taken at evening in an automobile over causeways and dikes to a group of buildings, dark air-ship halls, silhouetted against the sunset clouds in great lines of modern steel construction.

"How many?" I hear the question asked. Quite a confidence-inspiring number.

It was midnight as we approached the dark structure with brightly illuminated windows which, at first broad and red, soon shrank to narrow, shining slits as the whole ball turned on its axis in order to bring the air-ship into line with the wind.

The turning of a single screw on the ochre-yellow body of the air-cruiser filled the giant hall with the roaring and howling of a hurricane.

In front of the almost unbelievably thin steel rods to which were affixt the screw propellers were high wooden platforms on which mechanics cowered and watched the whirling propellers. These wooden propellers, each as tall as a man, soon became visible again, turned awkwardly a few times, then stopt. A mechanic adjusted a few screws, hammered a few bolts, and then the slender, thin wooden blades again roared. The mechanic always notes the faults first with the ear only, but afterward discovers them with the eye.

Now they had caught the right tone. "The ship is clear for sailing," the engineer reported to the commander.

In the front wall a gap opened slowly, like the pulling of a giant stage-curtain in a theater, only much slower. The motors took seven minutes to slide back the steel wings on the front door. The commander disappeared in the direction of the forward gondola. From the port-holes of the connecting gangway grinned the faces of happy mariners, who called out jokes to those who were staying behind. Then the wondrous monster was led out of the hall with an ease which the eye could hardly credit.

Gas-cells between the ribs of the air-cruiser cheat the laws of gravitation. The ship is weighted to an ounce, no lighter and no heavier than air, so that it swings in space like a great feather. A band of frolicking schoolboys could just as well have led the monster out of its stall.

But outside waited the night-wind. One knew it well from past experience. Therefore a hundred hard seamen's fists grabbed it outside to prevent capsizing.

A shrill whistle and all the screws began their storm-song. A few men of the landing battalion shook themselves like wet dogs. They had got on their heads a spout of the water with which the air-cruiser lightens itself. Lightly the slender colossus floated upward and it seemed swallowed up by the night, a dark shadow against the Great Dipper.

In the commander's gondola, among all the measuring-instruments and signal-wires, hangs a small, brown-plush teddy-bear, and amid the storm-song of the propellers and the thunder of the motors you seem to hear the shrill laughter of children. The commander's small daughter sent him the teddy-bear as a souvenir when sailing over England.

And so they went flying. The noise of the machinery made conversation impossible, the author tells us, but the commandant showed him by signs the workings of the various parts of the engine, as well as the steering-gear and the method of elevation and descent. Far below, the scenery passed by in an endless panorama. The account goes on to say:

We flew over wood and meadow, and over air-ship halls and barracks, and the canopy of green was soon lost to sight.

Through a small horizontal transparent pane, built like an alcove in the glass wall of the commandant's gondola, your eyes can see straight downward into the depths below.

At 2,000 feet the earth assumed that delightful relief that makes it seem like a giant plaything. In the distance the gray aura of a city appeared, but was soon left behind.

How the heart beat when through the forward windows of the gondola the North Sea was sighted. There lay the battle-fleet, but the ships seemed to hang in clouds, an optical illusion, for when seen from an air-ship the earth seems to sink like a round, flat saucer. Immediately under you lies the lowest point, while round about the horizon seems to rise. Hence came the illusion that battle-cruisers and a dread-nought, steaming far out at sea, were gliding through low clouds.

The barometer showed 3,300 feet. "Now we are in the zone of explosion danger," the commandant said coolly and quietly. I can not deny that this information disturbed the enjoyment of my view over all the world.

The Captain explained further: "At this height the atmosphere is most inclined to creep through the thin skin of the gas-cells, producing that explosive mixture of hydrogen and oxygen which you know from chemistry. If a man with hobnailed boots were to strike a spark on the steel plates now he could blow us all into the air. That is why we now blow off gas. This prevents a dangerous proportion in the mixture of air and hydrogen."

Shrill bells sounded through the air-ship, commands were called through the tele-

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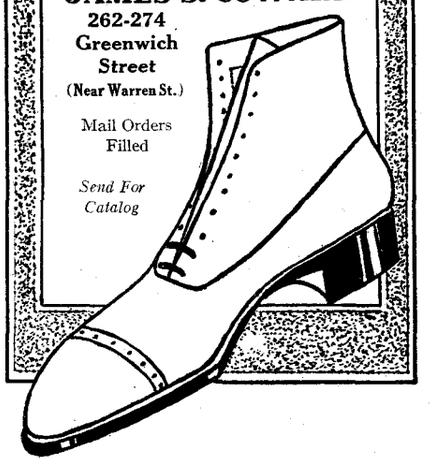

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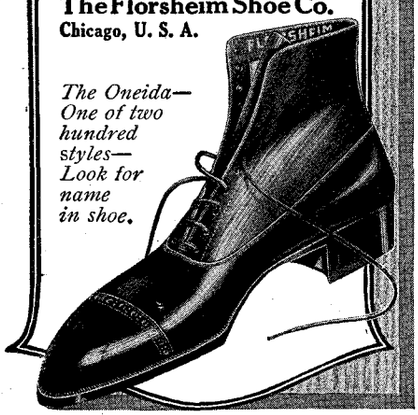

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phone, and wires were pulled. As we flew back over the land again the commander pointed out to me a large white cross in the midst of a plain. It was a target. Four bombs fell. Not one of them fell outside the circles of which the crossed lines were the diameters.

We descended until biplanes, cruising below us, looked like hawks.

"You must also visit the motor-room," the commandant suggested.

Through two doors lay the way to the machinists. I could stand it for just two minutes. How men with ear-drums and nerves can hold out hours at a time and half a day long in that mad hell of sound that shakes the whole body to the marrow I do not understand. These men are heroes even tho they merely hold out and do their oily work among the motors.

As we circled about our hall the landing-forces quickly caught hold of the lines, and after a few minutes *L-X* was firmly imprisoned on the wheeled iron-block that runs on rails to the hall.

Not always is the landing so easy. Many a ship has been held in a storm outside for twenty-four hours, the men taking relief shifts before it could be brought in.

It takes much courage and science to steer such a cruiser through the air. The commanders all laughed when they read in the English papers that the English planned to salvage the framework of *L-10*, sunk in the waters of England, in order to copy the construction. "We will make them a present of a brand-new one and they would not learn how to sail it in five years," they said.

Down on the water-front everywhere stand new and gigantic air-ship halls. On the day I left the first of some new and splendid monsters came flying from its air-ship yards. Others followed and lay ready for sailing. They are large enough to lay a fortress in ashes.

Wo to you, Paris! Wo to you, London, when your day comes!

AT LAST! AN AMERICAN LANGUAGE

NOW we have what we have been striving for. Americanism, pure and undiluted, has triumphed in the great new American language. When Freedom from her mountain height flung out the new tri-colored banner, she had no tongue but the hated English in which to sing the praises of her workmanship. It was a case of speak English or keep still. So we all spoke English.

And as a matter of fact, we are all still writing English, but really nobody speaks it any more. Its place—and we have the word of a solemn writer in *McClure's Magazine* for it—has been usurped by the new tongue sprung into being on this side of the water, and begotten by all the strains, conditions, and spirits which have made these States. Nowadays, when you go to Europe, people are quite ready to ask if you speak English. Says the writer, apropos of this:

When Bill Riggs went to Europe for the first time they asked him daily if he understood English. "Ye-es," Bill would admit doubtfully, "toler'ble—toler'ble. I kin make it out, if y' go slow." What Bill was trying to say is that, like most of us, he understood English but spoke American.

Spoken American has traveled far from spoken English. The English lift the receiver and mildly inquire: "Are you there?" Americans rattle the handle and cry: "H'lo! H'lo! Who-ziss?" The English say: "Rah-ther!" We say: "Sure thing!" They "do her in"; we "double-cross her." They "shut it"; we "can it." They tap their foreheads significantly and murmur: "Balmy!" We remark: "Nobuddy a-tome!" And spoken American has traveled even further. We have no written language. Our print is the English language our speech is the American. For instance, we must use English letters to indicate the sound of a common American salutation: "Godda—macha bowcha?" (Have you got a match about you?) But, alas, how this crude spelling maligns our smoothly articulated vernacular.

Our language—the American—is no stationary thing. It is on the move; it has characteristic "hustle." We are busy smashing consonants, spoiling vowels, crushing whole phrases into a grunt—"Uddia-doon-air?" (What are you doing there?) "Sry." (That is right.) In that respect our development is like the French language during the period of its most rapid advance. Like the French we have begun to drop our final consonants. A jitney-ride cost "fie-cense" (five cents). Our evening valedictory is "Goo-night!"

Like the French, too, we have a marked *liaison*—the borrowing of a letter from the preceding word. We invite one another to "C'meer." (Come here.) We guess at a hard name and add: "Sumpin nike at." (Something like that.) If we don't hear distinctly we nudge our neighbor and inquire: "Wah-zee-say?" (What does he say?) "Hoo-zat?" (Who is that?) has as good a *liaison* as the French *vous avez*.

Naturally, traces of English influence are still found in the American speech, altho America has never taken kindly to the English "t." In Revolutionary times, we remember, America would not give a Continental "d" for all the "t" in Britain. Consistently, enough, all our "T's" are rapidly turning into "d's," and our "D's"—big "D's" and little "D's"—are disappearing rapidly: "Ass-bedder." (That's better.) "Uh-godda-coal." (I have got a cold.) "Sid-dup" (Sit up), says mother at home; "Sit-dow" (Sit down), says teacher in school.

But in dropping "H's" we almost out-English the English: "Ware-zee?" (Where is he?) "Air-e-iz!" (There he is.) "At-sim!" (That's him.) When women interrupt our male meetings, as they often insist upon doing, one is sure to hear from the crowd a good, lusty, American voice shouting: "Shudder-rup!" What's she "doin' 'ere," anyway? Nobody "asst-'er in!" From the bleachers comes the cry: "Ittim owd, oh man!" (Hit them out, old man!) And when he does hit them out, the answering shout is: "Attaboy!" (That's the boy.)

Of course, your true philologist looks on these metamorphoses with unblanched countenance and unflinching eye. It's all in the day's work, and a day in philology is ever-so-many generations. Besides, says the account, the philologist cares not how people talk, as long as they keep on talking. It is dangerous to his job only when men give up the habit of making sounds. How-

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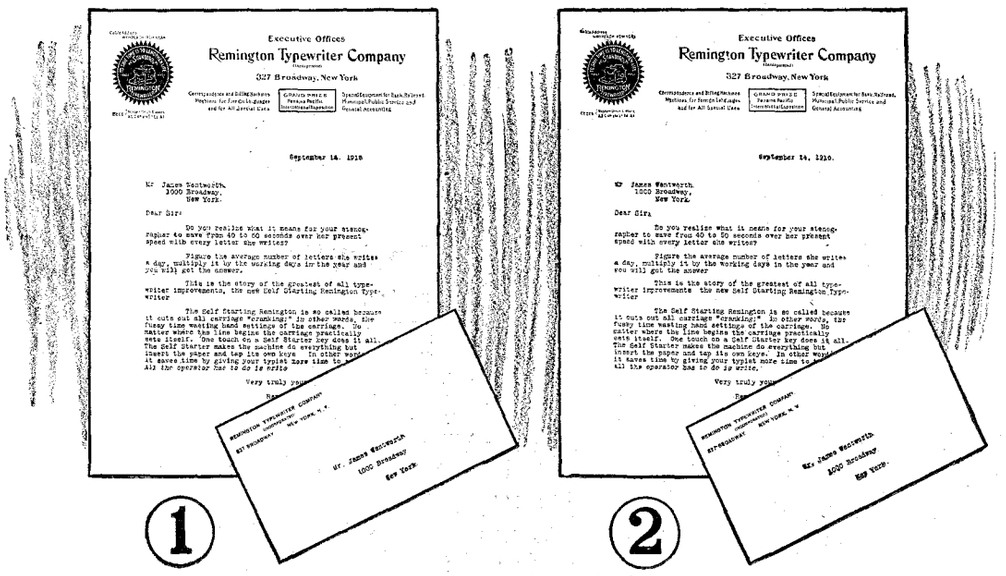

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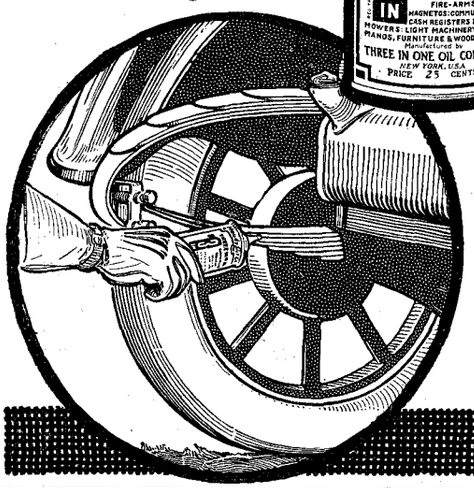

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ever, the talkers are very sensitive, and particularly the Americans, who, the more highly educated they are, the more they labor under the impression that they are talking English. That is a mark, says the author, of their respectability. He adds:

As only the English language is respectable, there has come to be a prejudice against the American language. Prejudice or not, we are already seeing a crop-out of the American language in the newspaper joke and in the popular-magazine story. The native speech is getting into print. In a few years one may not be astonished to see the great American novel decked out in its own *patois*. Fancy a page like this:

"Wen-juh gid din?" sez she.
"Lass-night," sez he.
"Binna way long?"
"Munce 'n munce."
"Hows ze oh town?"
"Aw-rye."
"Fie nole ciddy," sez he.
"Ass-rye," sez she.
"Fie nole burg," sez he.
"Ass-rye," sez she.

Isn't it intoxicating! One's own, one's native speech! To be sure, this is only a faint phonetic reproduction of the great American language—to do it justice would require a special alphabet—but it is "sumpin nike at."

THE WEATHER FACTOR IN WAR

WEATHER conditions always have exercised an important control over military operations. No general staff will neglect the weather factor in the elaboration of its battle plans. Singularly, little was written on the subject until Dr. W. Hennig, of Leipzig, brought out a recent work on the effect of weather on campaigns. Since, perhaps, there will be a third winter campaign, this war will remain remarkable for the extraordinary length of its winter duration. It is true, the winter of 1914–15, with the exception of a few days, was very mild, and altho the troops suffered from frost and snow in the Karpathians, in Servia, and the Caucasus, some of the general staffs, both on the Eastern and Western fronts, would have burned a candle or two for more severe weather conditions. Dr. Hennig adds:

Field-Marshal von Hindenburg already exprest in November, 1914, his opinion that he would welcome a severe winter because the same would interfere with the digging-in on the part of the Russians, who are past masters in this art. But the Russians, also haunted by the memories of 1812, set great hopes on their famous ally "General Winter." Their expectations did not realize; the German and Austrian armies withstood the Karpathian frosts, while Poland and East Prussia were favored by a particularly mild winter season. Besides, in Russia, with her terrible roads, the spring thaw is more dangerous for an invading army than weather far below zero. There can, therefore, be no doubt that the mild winter of 1914–15 has been a great drawback for Germany.

We hardly need to insist upon the

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great advantages the hard freezing of the Yser Canal would have had for our troops who had to wade, often waist-deep, through the artificially inundated lowlands near Dunkirk.

Frozen rivers and lakes, permitting the transportation of army, ammunition, and baggage, have very often played an important part in offensive campaigns. In the war-history of Germany, the successful siege of the city of Brandenburg, during the winter of 927–28, by the German king, Henry, the Fowler, when the whole water-supply of the city became frozen, and the victory of the Great Elector of Brandenburg (January 16–19, 1679) against the Swedes in Courland and Livland, which would have been unthinkable without the freezing of the Kurisches Haff and the Frisches Haff (extensive lagoons in east Prussia), are two remarkable cases of the strategic importance of weather conditions. Other not less famous instances are the passage of the frozen Danube by the Goths under King Theodemer in 462, and by the Huns under their leader Zaberga in 557–558.

It very rarely happens that great stretches of the Baltic Sea completely freeze up. In 1657–58 King Charles X., of Sweden, took advantage of the severe frost in his war with Denmark, transporting his army of 12,000 men and its heavy artillery over the frozen Skagerrack and Kattegat, from Jutland to Zealand, thus carrying the war into the enemy's country. The Danes were beaten and asked for peace (February 26, 1658).

The strangest campaign, however, in which a severe frost played a decisive part, was the French invasion of Holland under Pichegru in 1794–95, not very far from the present war-scenes. The Dutch counted on the inundation, natural and artificial, of the battle-field. Suddenly, December 23, a great frost set in. Pichegru saw his opportunity and, five days later, crossed the frozen Meuse. But an event, perhaps unique in the entire history of warfare, happened January 25, 1795, when the French cavalry took possession of the Dutch fleet which was helplessly frozen in near Texel! Holland had, of course, lost the war, and her ally, England, to wreak revenge for her disillusion, took possession of all Dutch colonies, retaining the better part of them even after the conclusion of peace — a piquant memento, from the standpoint of our author.

Of course, sometimes the frozen crust suddenly begins to thaw, and King Charles XII., of Sweden, thinking of the luck of his ancestor, tried to outdo Charles X. by attempting to get over the Oeresund on skis. He failed miserably.

Everybody knows the tragic fate of Napoleon and his army during the Russian winter of 1812. Heine's famous joke that Bonaparte's geography teacher was responsible for this terrible catastrophe is out of place, for the great general could not foresee the extraordinary and universal severity of the European winter of 1812.

"Napoleon's tragedy was surpassed by the fate of the English garrison of Kabul in 1842; the victorious Afghans granted to the little army of 4,000 and the 12,000 civilians accompanying them free passage to India, but only one single survivor, a certain Dr. Brydon, reached India to tell the horrible news.

"In the light of the above facts, it is interesting to note that the generals of all times did their best to avoid the hottest

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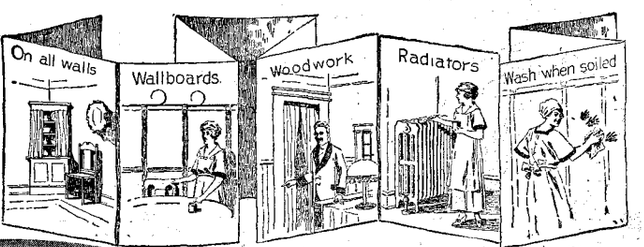

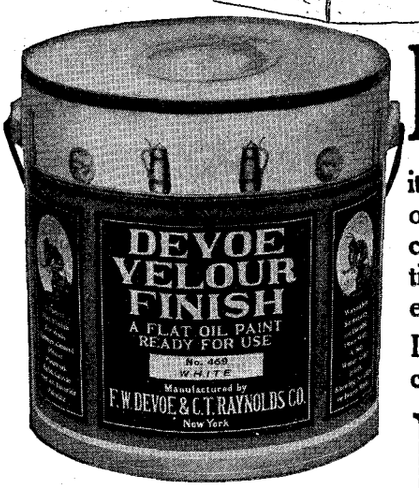

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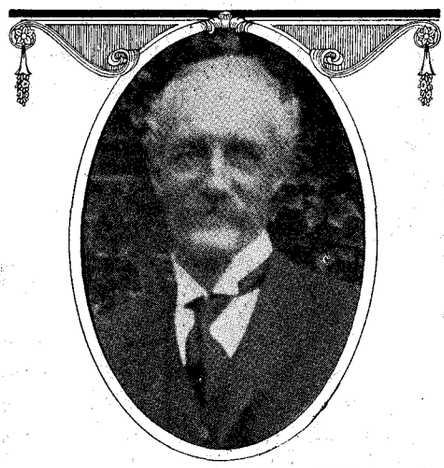
Wilson's Record Should Make Every Progressive Vote for Hughes

By GIFFORD PINCHOT

IT is the duty of every American citizen to make and support openly his choice among the candidates for the Presidency. That duty is especially solemn this year because great events and great decisions are certain to confront us during the next administration. I am writing to give you my reasons for my own choice.

I am neither a Democrat nor a Republican, but a Progressive. Yet, there being no Progressive nominee, unless I choose to support a candidate who cannot be elected, I must vote for either Wilson or Hughes.



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GIFFORD PINCHOT

For a Time I Liked Wilson

For many months after his inauguration, I thought well of President Wilson. In many respects I liked what he said about what he was going to do. He talked well and made a good impression. It was only when I began to check up what he said by what he did that I was forced to change my view.

In the end I came to see that President Wilson has a greater power than any other man in public life to say one thing but do another, and get away with it.

The facts which justify this statement are common knowledge.

Saying What He Did Not Mean

We have all heard him tell Germany publicly that she would be held to strict accountability; and have learned afterward that he had actually let her know secretly at the time, by the mouth of his Secretary of State through the Austrian Ambassador, that what he said he did not mean. We have all seen him prove that he did not mean it by his total failure to exact reparation, apology, or even disavowal for the murder of Americans on the Lusitania.

I do not say that Wilson should have thrust us into war. There was no need of war. But there was need of courage to give us peace with self-respect. If Wilson had shown courage this country would not have skidded from one crisis to the next, again and again narrowly escaping disaster.

We have all heard him declare against intervention in Mexico, while actually intervening to dictate who should and who should not hold office there; and denounce war against Mexico while actually engaged in war.

With war on every side of us, we all heard him, in his second annual message, solemnly assure the country that we had not been negligent of National defence. It was not true; and later on he himself proved that it was not true by proclaiming aloud the need for what he had solemnly assured us we already had.

Unforgivable Neglect

For more than a year after the world-war began, Wilson did not raise a finger to put us in a condition of defense. Only the proverbial good luck of America has kept us from paying the bitterest price for his unforgivable neglect.

We have all heard him ridicule the idea of a greater navy, then declare for incomparably the greatest navy in the world, and then go back on that.

We have all heard him declare for exempting our coast-wise trade from tolls in the Panama Canal; and have seen him show our own people and the English that he did not mean it.

The Single Term

We have seen him elected on a platform which pledged him to a single term as President, and then become a candidate for another term.

We have all heard him declare for the Conservation of our natural resources; and have seen him neglect that policy, and refuse his help to defeat the Shields water-power bill, the most dangerous attack on Conservation since Ballinger's effort to turn Alaska over to the Guggenheims.

The Pork Barrel

We have all heard him declare for efficiency in Government, and have seen him set the pork barrel first and throw efficiency away.

I have known official Washington from the inside for six Administrations. In that time the Government business has never been so badly done and so extravagantly as it is now done under Wilson.

We have all heard him announce himself as the champion of Civil Service reform; and have seen him turn the Government Departments over to the spoilsmen as no other President has done in twenty years.

We have all heard him declare for pitiless publicity; and have seen him conduct the most secret administration of our time.

We have all heard him announce himself as President of all the people; and have seen him, as the most partisan President of his generation, flout and oppose the Progressives, whom now, because he needs them, he seeks to conciliate and enlist.

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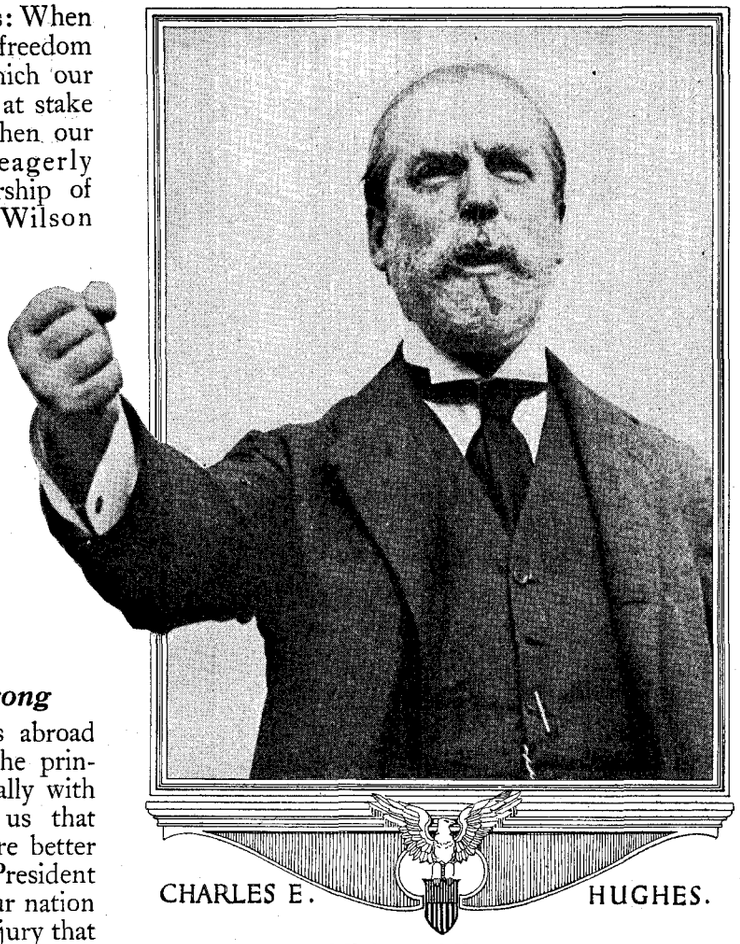
Worst of all is this: When every principle of freedom and equality for which our fathers fought was at stake in the great war, when our whole country eagerly awaited the leadership of the President, Wilson dodged. He refused to take sides on the greatest moral issue of our time. He advised our people to be "Neutral even in thought," undecided between right and wrong.



CHARLES E. HUGHES.

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A Great Wrong

While our friends abroad were fighting for the principles we held equally with them, he taught us that profits and ease were better than self-respect. President Wilson has done our nation the most serious injury that any leader can do to any people by making us flinch with him from a great moral decision. Thereby he weakened our hold as a nation on the principles which alone can make any people self-respecting, safe and strong.

Having led us wrong on the ground that we must be neutral in the face of the deliberate breaking of the world's peace, he has just reversed himself again, and in his speech at Shadow Lawn now assures us that "No nation can any longer remain neutral as against any wilful disturbance of the peace of the world."

An Ignoble Standard

It is bad enough that Wilson's foreign policy has left us, as the War draws toward its end, without a friend among the great nations of the world, and without the respect of any of them. What is worse is that he has kept us from standing up for what we know to be right.

The ignoble standard of profit over principle which Mr. Wilson forced upon the country in our foreign relations, he has applied to himself as President. In what he has said, done, and left undone, the record shows him steadily dominated by political expediency.

"Molasses to Catch Flies"

These facts, and many others like them, have forced me to see that what Mr. Wilson says is no sign of what he has done, or of what he will do. The one thing his record shows is that what he stands for now he is not likely to stand for long. I do not care what his platform or his campaign declarations may be, because the common experience of us all has taught us that to him they are simply "molasses to catch flies."

I Shall Vote and Work for Hughes

Hughes, on the other hand, is a man of his word. His record as Governor of New York proves that. It shows him to be honest, fearless, and free from the domination of special interests and corrupt politicians. So far as the Conservation policies are concerned, both what he said and what he did could hardly have been better. I am confident that under him these policies will be safe. He is a strong man who will dodge no moral issues, and he will give us an honest and an efficient administration.

As a Progressive I believe in Nationalism. So does Hughes. I am certain that under Hughes the Progressive policies will fare better than under Wilson, and that the safety, honor, and welfare of the country will be in immeasurably surer hands.

I cannot vote for Wilson because I cannot trust him. He does not do what he says. Hughes does. Therefore my choice is Hughes, and I shall work and vote for him.

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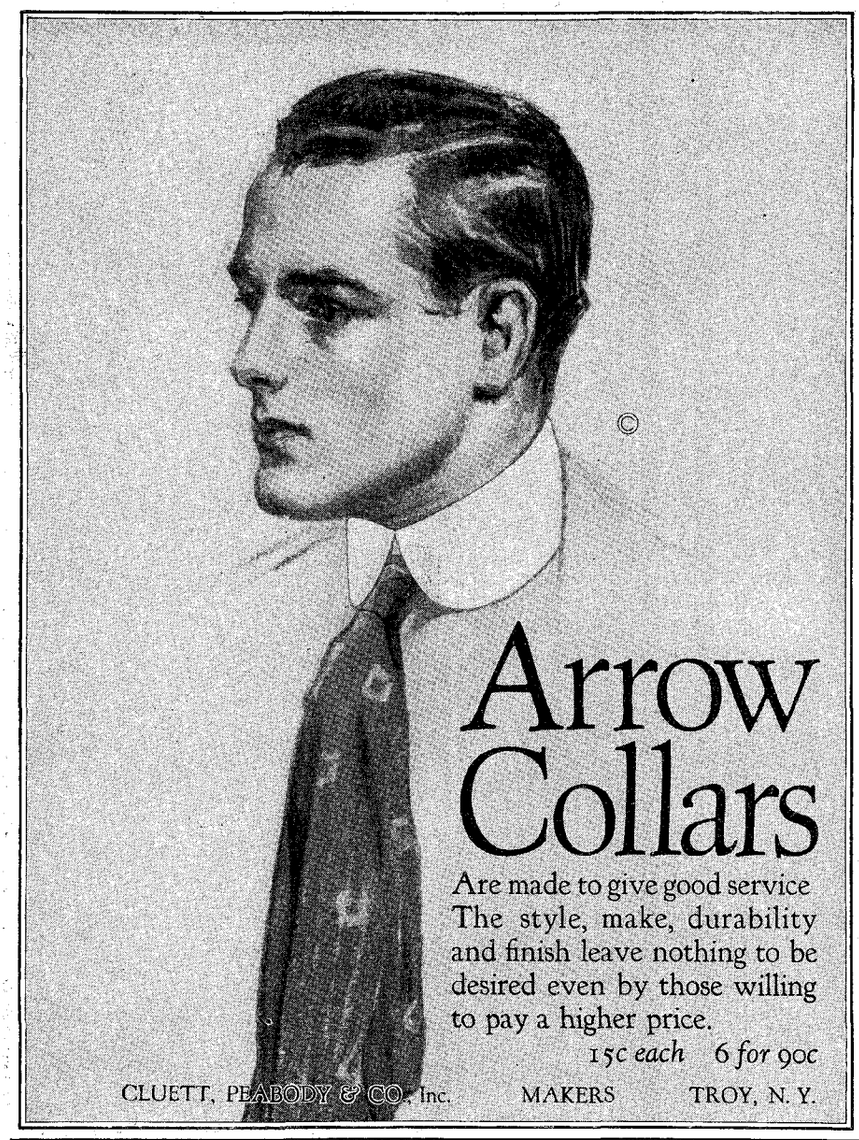
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and coolest months of the year for their decisive battles. July and August, middle of December to February, are rarely met in mankind's war-calendar. Up to the nineteenth century, the winter, generally speaking, formed one long holiday for the sons of god Mars. The winter camps were generally broken up in April. The first great European winter battles are those of Pultusk (December 26, 1806) and Preussisch-Eylau (February 7 and 8, 1807).

THE PERILS OF TRAVEL IN BOSTON

IT is said that a large proportion of the mortality among the Germans fighting in Russian and Austrian Poland is due to paralysis of the vocal cords, arising from attempts to pronounce the names of the towns. A soldier would rather have his mail go astray than to run the risk of death trying to tell his family where he expects to be quartered. And in our own country a parallel danger threatens. Not the names of the cities, altho such havens as Winnepesaukee and Ronkonkoma stand as portentous to the summer visitor, but rather is it the language of the masses in certain parts of the East which imperils the traveler.

The New York *World* tells of a dread adventure experienced by an unwary and totally unarmed photographer who ventured into the sacred confines of Radcliffe College in Boston. It is a matter of sufficient bravery to go alone, and without a lexicon, into the Hub—but to invade the very depths of its academic fields—well, perhaps he got what he deserved for his temerity. The account runs:

"You impudent mammothrept."

That's what a Southern girl called Jack Donovan, an amateur photographer who had bet he could snap six of the prettiest young women in the Harvard summer school within seventy-two hours.

The pictureman's first victim was the pretty blonde from Alabama. He sighted his lens and fired. The beauty sighted her flashing orbs and returned the fire doublefold.

"You impudent mammothrept!" she cried.

Disabled, but with exposure No. 1 in his possession, the photographer retreated, not knowing what he had been called but fearing the worst.

Whereupon he consulted numerous authorities and finally found, in a dictionary, this:

"Mammothrept: a child reared by its grandmother; a spoiled child."

All He Asked.—Trade was bad. At the end of another blank day the discouraged salesman called on a other prospective customer and asked to show his samples.

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The customer would not.

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Taught by Experience.— TEACHER — "Which little boy can tell me what it is that comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb?"

SCHOLAR—"Please, miss, it's our landlord when he gets the back rent."—*Puck.*

The Figurehead

A SALT-SEA YARN

There was an ancient carver that carved of a saint,
But the parson wouldn't have it, so he took a pot of paint
And changed its angel garment for a dashing soldier rig,
And said it was a figurehead and sold it to a brig.

The brig hauled her mainsail to an offshore draft,
Then she shook her snowy royals and the Scillies went abaft;
And cloudy with her canvas she ran before the Trade
Till she got to the Equator, where she struck a merry-maid.

A string of pearls and conches were all of her togs,
But the flying-fish and porpoises—they followed her like dogs;
She had a voice of silver and lips of coral red,
She climbed the dolphin-striker and kissed the figurehead.

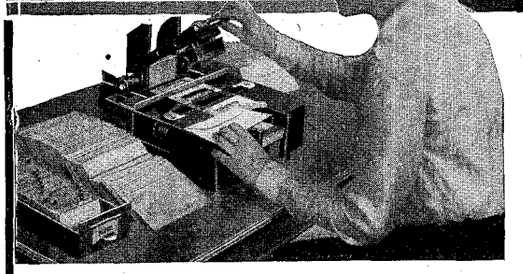
Then every starry evening she'd swim in the foam
About the bows, asinging like a nightingale at home;
She'd call to him and sing to him as sweetly as a bird,
But the wooden-headed effigy he never said a word.

And every starry evening in the Doldrum calms
She'd wriggle up the bobstay and throw her tender arms
About his scarlet shoulders and fondle him and cry
And stroke his curly whiskers, but he never winked an eye.

She couldn't get an answer to her tears or moans,
So she went and told her daddy, told the ancient Davy Jones:
Old Davy damned his eyesight and puzzled of his wits,
Then whistled up his hurricanes and tore the brig to bits.

Down on the ocean-bed, green fathoms deep,
Where the wrecks lie rotting and great sea-serpents creep.
In a gleaming grotto, all built of sailors' bones,
Sits the handsome figurehead, listening to Miss Jones.

Songs o' love she sings him the livelong day,
And she hangs upon his bosom and sobs the night away,
But he never, never answers, for beneath his soldier paint
The wooden-headed lunatic still thinks that he's a saint.—*Punch.*



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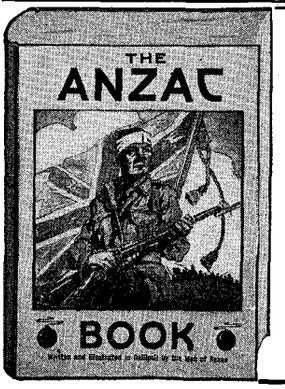

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LITTLE GIRL—"Let me see it."—*Life.*

A Mystery Solved.—"You once kept a cook for a whole month, you say?"

"Yes."

"Remarkable. How did you manage?"

"We were cruising on a house-boat and she couldn't swim."—*Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph.*

Positive Proof.—Two Scottish soldiers on their way to France passed through London recently. It was their first experience of the "big village," and they were naturally keeping their eyes open.

Their watchfulness was, however, not sharp enough to avoid a taxi in the vicinity of Victoria Station, and one of them got knocked over.

As he picked himself up, none the worse for his fall, his mate growled: "Mebbe ye'll believe it's busier than Kirkintilloch noo."—*Tit-Bits.*

Love's Labor's Lost.—Let us say at once that we love THE LITERARY DIGEST, and with eagerness devour every copy that is allowed to reach these shores untorpedoed. It is precisely in a spirit of love that we are now going to take it to task. We should be false to all our traditions if we permitted to pass unnoticed an untidy habit of THE LITERARY DIGEST, which allows it to handle its past participles in a harsh and unconscionable manner. Scattered over its pages are such words as "drest" and "kist" instead of "dressed" and "kissed." It looks very quaint and pretty. Some sentimentalists may object; but quaintness and prettiness do not always coexist with more solid qualities. And, then, THE LITERARY DIGEST is not even true to the deplorable habit which it has formed. In the current number we came across "all mussed up," when, to be rigidly logical, the phrase should have been "all must up." We wonder how THE LITERARY DIGEST would deal with the locution "guessed." "I guest as much" would look clumsy and even alarming. And there is that old English word "buss" which presents a pitfall. Even THE DIGEST would hardly care to write "The mother bust her little son."—*London Globe.*

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CURRENT EVENTS

EUROPEAN WAR

WESTERN FRONT

September 14.—In the Somme battle the French storm Le Priez Farm on the road to Combles. Nearly all the approaches to Combles, including Le Priez, Leuse Wood, Falfemont Farm, Bouleux Wood, and Ginchy, are later announced to be in the hands of the Allies.

September 15.—The British take Flers, Martinpuich, the High Wood, Courcelette, and almost all of the Bouleaux Wood, says London, adding that they are now storming the German positions from Combles north to the Pozières-Bapaume road. Two thousand three hundred prisoners are captured as the attacking forces come within four mi es of Bapaume. A feature of the attack is said to be the armored automobile-trucks so constructed that they may cross trenches and shell-holes.

September 16.—Defeating German counter-attacks, the French make progress north of Bouchavesnes and continue attacking there. Berlin admits the gains claimed by the French yesterday. The total of prisoners taken by the British in the last two days passes 4,000.

September 17.—A two-mile trench system, believed to be impregnable, is stormed and taken by the Allied offensive near Thiepval. South of the Somme the French drive the remaining Germans from Berny and Vermandovilliers, and take all the trenches from Vermandovilliers through Deniecourt to Berny (three miles). More gains north of Berny toward Barleux are reported. The taking of Moquet Farm and the "Danube" trench is reported to put Thiepval in danger.

September 18.—The British take the German work known as the Quadrilateral, advancing the line about a thousand yards. They also make progress north of Flers, where heavy German counter-attacks are repulsed. More ground is gained in the push toward Bapaume, and 1,400 prisoners are taken during the day's advance. South of the Somme the French take Deniecourt, while to the north of the river they push to within 200 yards of Combles.

September 20.—In a counter-attack the Germans reach the suburbs of Bouchavesnes, but are driven out again by the French in bayonet warfare. In the Verdun sector the French are driven out of a portion of a trench, says Berlin, on the west slopes of Morte Homme Hill. In this operation, ninety-eight prisoners are taken.

EASTERN FRONT

September 17.—Berlin admits that strong Russian attacks before Halicz are driving the Teutonic troops back toward Lemberg. Three thousand seven hundred and seventy-four Turkish and German troops are taken as the railway line from Podvyske to Halicz is attacked near the River Anraiuvka. South of Brzezany, the Russians rout the Turkish troops on the right bank of the Zlota Lipa and occupy their positions.

September 18.—The Germans check the Russian advance on Halicz, which still holds out. A number of trenches tal n by the Russians four days ago are retaken, together with 3,500 prisoners.

September 19.—A German victory on the Stokhod is reported from Berlin when the Teutons take a bridge-head on the

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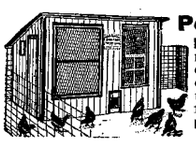

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river, driving back the Russians and capturing 2,500 prisoners. In a counter-attack on the Narayuvka River, a tributary to the Gnila Lipa, Berlin reports 4,200 prisoners taken to date. This statement is flatly denied by Petrograd, which states that the Teutons were driven back.

September 20.—The Porte announces that the Turks fighting in Galicia have driven back the Russians in a forty-eight-hour battle, taking 600 prisoners.

The Russian troops are reported to be "within a few hundred yards of the railway-station of Halicz." The total number of prisoners taken by the Russians since August 31 passes the 25,000 mark.

THE BALKAN CAMPAIGNS

September 14.—Berlin states that the Fourth Greek Army Corps, captured by the Bulgars with the forts at Kavala, have asked to be sent to Germany for internment as they are unable to get home.

September 15.—Bucharest admits a Roumanian retreat in the Dobrudja, before the advancing Teutons and Bulgarians. Heavy fighting is reported.

In Transylvania the Roumanian advance continues with the occupation of Bogata, Barsaolt, and Octerna on the middle Aluta, forty miles from the frontier.

General Serrail's Allied offensive advances in Macedonia, according to Paris, pushing the Bulgars before it back to within fifteen miles of the border. Advancing along the Vardar, the Servians take Gornichevo and the crest of the Malkanidje. Eksisu, southeast of Florina, is also taken. The Bulgars evacuate Kastoria and Makukovo.

September 16.—Berlin gets the report of a great victory in which the Roumanian army in the Dobrudja is smashed and retreating along the whole line. The Russo-Roumanian center is driven back thirty miles, says Berlin, while the German and Bulgarian troops occupy Karapca, Sabla Burun, Jez Kartel and Ilanlik—Roumanian Black Sea ports.

Servian, French, and Russian forces drive back the Bulgarian right wing further into Macedonia, approaching Florina. A Servian dispatch reports Malkanidje and Malareka in Allied hands. These reports are verified by admissions from Berlin.

September 17.—Sofia admits that the Bulgar troops are falling back in the Lake Ostrovo sector "after heavy fighting." Added to this is the statement that the Nidja Planina has been lost to the Servians.

Italian forces occupy Paliosrestro, five miles from Argyrocastro, in Albania, according to a delayed dispatch from Athens.

September 18.—French and Russian troops take Florina, routing the Bulgars, who are reported by Paris as fleeing toward Monastir. The Servians press back the Bulgars east of the Cerna, taking the first line of trenches on the crest of Kaimakcalan.

September 19.—Servian troops in pursuit of the retreating Bulgars cross the frontier into their own land, says a dispatch from Paris. North of Lake Ostrovo the Servians take the highest peak of the Kaimakcalan range, holding it in the face of counter-attacks. The Allied troops, having taken Florina again, are reported as advancing toward Monastir, which, according to rumor, is being evacuated by the Bulgars.

Berlin reports that the Germans have broken the Russo-Roumanian line in several places in the Dobrudja, while the Bulgars occupy Sotolui, Chiol, and Vasciul. Mangalia, on the coast, is announced to have been taken four days ago.

In Transylvania the Teutons repulse the Roumanians south of Hatzeg and drive them back.

September 20.—The Servians take Height 2625, the highest peak of the Kaimakcalan range, on the Servian border. The Bulgars, withdrawing from the outskirts of Florina, also abandon Viglitza, falling back on Svesda. Sofia and Berlin announce, and Rome admits, that the Italian advance posts south of the Belaschitza plateau have withdrawn from Matnica and Gorni-Poroj, due to Bulgarian attacks.

The Austrians retake Petroseny from the Roumanians, and drive them back to their own country through the Szurduk Pass in the Transylvanian Alps. On the other hand, the Roumanians win a victory over the Bulgars and Teutons near Enigea, in the Dobrudja. The battle continues at the latest report.

THE ITALIAN ACTIVITIES

September 14.—A squadron of aeroplanes, says Rome, raids Trieste, dropping five tons of explosives on the shipyards. Large fires are reported to have been started. Vienna relates the raid as causing "small damage, and none of military importance."

September 15.—Italian troops resume the drive on Trieste, storming positions on the Plateau Carso. East of Göritz 2,117 prisoners are taken in storming Austrian positions. Vienna calls this attack a failure.

September 16.—Italian successes on the lines northwest of Trieste are reported from Rome as the offensive takes the height of San Grado and a number of Austrian entrenchments east of Oppachiasella and toward Loquiza. Unofficial dispatches place the Austrian losses at more then 10,000.

September 18.—The Italian advance passes Oppachiasella, taking all the Austrian works southward through Pietra Rossa.

GENERAL

September 14.—M. Demitracopoulos, recently announced as appointed Premier of Greece by the King, decides that, owing to the opposition of the Allies, he can not accept the office and form a Cabinet.

September 15.—The French Government instructs its Minister to protest to Sweden the recent action of that nation in recognizing commercial submarines. A violation of neutrality is alleged.

Representatives of Germany, Austria, Turkey, and Bulgaria confer at the headquarters on the Eastern front, according to a dispatch from Geneva. London claims that the purpose of this meeting is to deal with the Roumanian campaign and subsequent activity in the Balkans.

Lieutenant-General Baron von Freytag-Loringhoven is appointed chief of the Supplementary General Staff to succeed the late Lieutenant-General von Moltke. He is probably Germany's most prominent writer and authority on military subjects, says Berlin in comment.

September 16.—M. Nikolas Kalogropoulos, is appointed Premier of Greece, and forms a Cabinet without consulting the Allies. The new Premier is a friend of Venizelos, but dispatches say that nothing other than a war Cabinet will be tolerated by the Entente.

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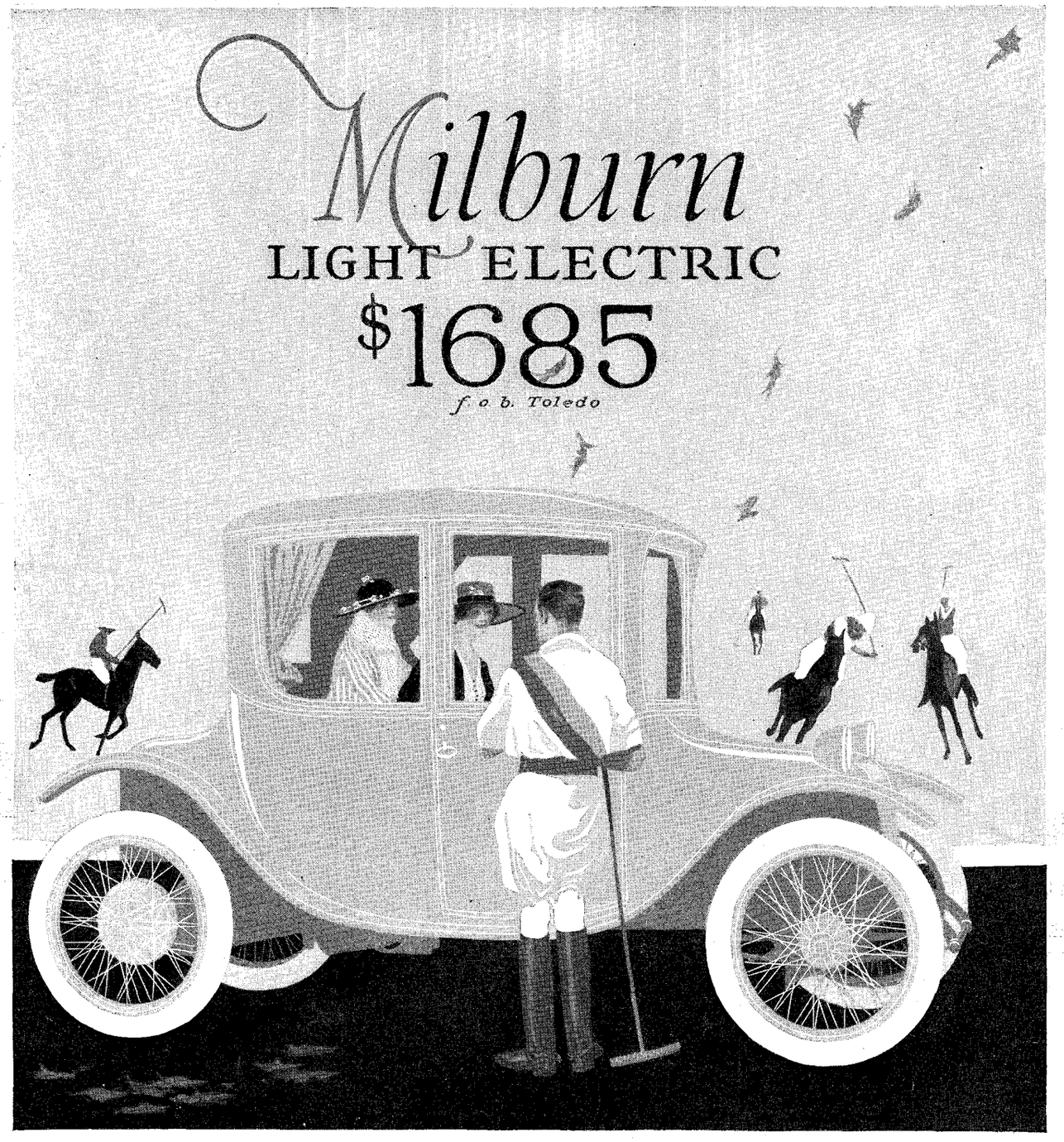

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A definite denial of the proposed abdication of the King of Greece is sent out by the Austrian Embassy at Athens. It is added that his popularity with the people is increasing.

September 18.—Belgium protests to the American Department of State the forced loan of 1,000,000,000 francs levied upon the Belgian banks by the German military authorities.

The German East-African forces are reported routed by the Belgian-British troops with great losses. The last two German ports, Lindi and Mikindani, are occupied by naval forces and the defenders driven inland.

September 20.—Greece presents a note to the Central Powers asking for the return of the garrison from the Kavala forts, lately sent into Germany. The strength of the note is taken to mean that the Hellenes intend it for an ultimatum. The new Greek Cabinet is reported as not yet recognized by the Entente.

Portuguese troops, crossing the Rovuma River, between Portuguese and German East Africa, rout the Germans and seize four miles of frontier, says Lisbon.

The Russian forces attack Turkish troops in Persia, about seventy miles north of Hamadan, in the direction of Kasvin. The Mussulmans are compelled to retreat until the pursuing forces reach Kuridjan, about twenty miles from Hamadan.

FOREIGN

GENERAL

September 15.—José Echegaray, one of the greatest dramatists ever produced by Spain, dies at Madrid at the age of eighty-three.

September 17.—The London Chamber of Commerce urges the abandonment of free trade and the establishing of a tariff to insure post-war trade supremacy. A sliding scale of tariffs is proposed, according to the announcement, by which the lowest duties will be paid by colonies or allies of Great Britain, and higher rates, proportionally, by friendly neutrals, unfriendly neutrals, and countries "lately enemies."

Sir Cavendish Boyle, former Governor of Newfoundland, dies in London at the age of sixty-seven.

September 20.—In an address, Premier Knudsen, of Norway, reveals the fact that a secret agreement, signed in 1914, exists between Norway and Sweden, guaranteeing that neither country will be drawn into war against the other. It is designed, according to report, to insure perfect neutrality for these two Scandinavian countries.

Nearly a million Chinese are made homeless by one of the largest floods in history. The inundation is caused by the overflow of the River Hwai in Anhui Province.

THE MEXICAN SITUATION

September 16.—Villa, with 600 men, attacks Chihuahua City and occupies a part of it, but is driven out by the Constitutionalist forces with heavy losses. The prisoners taken are immediately put to death, says a dispatch from El Paso.

September 20.—Villa, with 150 men, is reported in hiding, wounded, in the Sierra de la Sile, south of Santa Ysabel. General Trevino reports that the recent attack on Chihuahua City was part of an organized plan to start simultaneous uprisings throughout the Republic.

DOMESTIC

GENERAL

September 16.—Horace White, veteran journalist, dies in New York.

Mrs. Annie Howe, only sister of President Wilson, dies in New London after illness of a week with peritonitis.

September 17.—Seth Low, former president of Columbia University and reform mayor of New York, dies at Bedford Hills, N. Y., after a lingering illness. He was sixty-six.

The Second New York Infantry is ordered home from the border. It will return to Camp Whitman.

September 18.—Maj.-Gen. Albert L. Mills, formerly commandant at West Point, dies in Washington at the age of sixty-two.

September 19.—Prof. Frank Dempster Sherman, of the School of Architecture, Columbia University, dies in New York following an operation for appendicitis. He was well known as an architect, genealogist, and poet.

The owners of the torpedoed *Lusitania* file a liability plea with the United States District Court limiting their liability to $91,296. Accident-claims against the Cunard Steamship Company, Ltd., amount to $5,883,479.

William James Calhoun, ex-Minister to China, dies in Chicago, at the age of sixty-eight. He was noted as a diplomat and lawyer, and was a prominent figure in the Republican party.

September 20.—Hundreds riot in a strike battle in New York when 500 strikers waylay and attack two surface cars. General disorders mark the latest phases of the transit strike.

After a spectacular contest, William M. Calder wins the Republican nomination for Senator from New York over Robert Bacon, by 7,000 votes. Gov. Charles S. Whitman is renominated by the Republicans and Progressives.

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"You are the first to tell me so," said the damsel, with a happy blush.

"Then," he retorted, promptly, "may I claim my reward as an astronomer?"

The lady looked puzzled.

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"Why, the right to give my name to the star I have discovered!" said the young man, speaking boldly at last.—*Tit-Bits.*

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INVESTMENTS AND FINANCE

OUR ABILITY TO ABSORB MORE FOREIGN LOANS

INASMUCH as foreign nations are now seeking new loans in this country, and the banks which had already taken large blocks of other foreign bonds have only partially disposed of their holdings to investors, the question has arisen in many minds as to the ability of this country to absorb these new foreign loans and others likely to be submitted here during the continuance of the war. At present the total of foreign loans floated in this country has reached $1,650,000,000. That this sum will be gradually augmented, at least until peace comes, is the opinion now quite current in financial circles. So long as the belligerent countries continue to be dependent on us for food-supplies and munitions of war, they will be obliged to continue to make financial arrangements here. An educational work, however, has been necessary on the part of bankers in order to induce individual American investors to put their money into foreign Government bonds. Their work to that end is generally looked upon now as having been successful. Indeed, foreign loans have been described as having become "popular with investors."

There seems to be no question anywhere that the loans thus far placed in this country will eventually be absorbed by the public. The more pressing question now is, could further foreign loans in large amounts be floated here? It is recognized that there must be some limit to the country's capacity, and that the extreme point in our resources, whatever that point may be, is being approached closer and closer with each loan floated. Interesting current opinion on this subject was recently set forth in *The Journal of Commerce:*

"In the opinion of bankers and students of foreign financing the capacity of this country to take care of foreign loans is far from exhausted. The number and volume of loans that may be safely disposed of in this market is great, not only in the aggregate but also relatively speaking. This belief is predicated, of course, upon present conditions of domestic business, the enormous export trade, and the condition of the money market. The last-mentioned factor is closely related to the gold-import movement, which indirectly aids the financial machinery of this country to further the ends of the European borrowers.

"Bankers who have followed the process of distribution of the $500,000,000 Anglo-French loan and similar transactions declare that while it is true that the major part of these securities is still in the hands of the banks, purchases by the public are increasing daily. Many of the large banking institutions which a year ago took large blocks of the Anglo-French bonds have liquidated a considerable portion of their holdings.

"One of the points raised in the general discussion of foreign loans is the inherent danger of banks becoming congested with foreign Government securities. An investigation of actual conditions discloses the fact that most banks and trust companies have exercised discretion in making investments in these issues. What may seem large for one bank may be a comparatively conservative investment for another institution.

"The president of a large national bank, in discussing this question, pointed out that he invested about 50 per cent. of the bank's capital and surplus in foreign Government securities. This money, he said, belonged to the stockholders and not to the depositors. He exprest the view that in the case of a large institution the investment was safe and did not affect its lending capacity because the reserves of the bank were sufficiently large to take care of the needs of the bank's clients. It is generally recognized that excessive investments in foreign Government securities are objectionable by reason of the fact that the assets of a bank should be in liquid form, more particularly in commercial paper that is self-liquidating.

"Incidentally, it has been pointed out that a large portion of the public which has indulged in successful stock speculation is now prepared to invest the profits in high-grade bonds, many seekers of investments selecting foreign Government securities. The Anglo-French bonds are especially attractive for the reason that at current prices the yield is about 6¼ per cent. per annum. Mention should also be made of the fact that the interest payments on the 5 per cent. Anglo-French bonds are made semiannually and that many of the bondholders have devoted the earned interest to the further purchase of the same bonds. Another aspect of the interest disbursements is that while the foreign Governments have to make arrangements for meeting the payments, the proceeds of these payments tend to increase the wealth of American holders, who are placed in a position where their capacity for absorbing more securities is greatly increased.

"That bank investments in foreign loans have not impaired the ability of banks to supply the wants of their regular customers is indicated by the fact that interest-rates are not high. Moreover, the machinery furnished by the Federal-Reserve banks assures the public of the availability of funds for the usual business purposes. Should a bank find that it needs more cash than it has in its vaults it may always resort to the expedient of rediscounting its customers' paper. This is something which the banks could not do prior to the enactment of the Federal-Reserve Law; and it is evident that under the old banking system the local institutions could not have participated in the financing of foreign nations in the extensive manner that they have under the existing law.

"Regarding the pledging of securities for the loans made by the British Treasury, the question has been asked as to whether it is more desirable that Great Britain should sell the American stocks and bonds which it has collected from its subjects or whether it is more prudent to use the same as collateral for loans. From the point of view of the borrower, it is argued that the sale of securities at present high prices may be desirable for the reason that quotations may be lower at a subsequent date. Moreover, it is urged that the sale of bonds worth a million dollars will net one million dollars in cash, while hypothecating the same securities will reach only $800,000 in view of the fact that a margin of 20 per cent. is usually allowed in case of collateral loans. Again, from the American point of view it is argued that it is far more desirable that the American public should become the full owner of its railroad and industrial properties as represented by stock certificates than that the ownership should rest with foreigners, and that in place of owning American railroads the public in this

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country should be the holder of obligations of foreign Governments.

"It is also realized that any large movement designed to liquidate the holdings of the securities mobilized by the British Treasury will result in an unsettlement of the American security market, with perhaps dire consequences. The British Treasury and its fiscal representatives here are credited with exercising discretion and judgment in the disposition of the mobilized securities, and while at the moment sales are not being made, it is generally understood that when opportunities are offered some of the mobilized securities are placed on the market."

THE RISE IN RAILROAD STOCKS

After many weeks of activity, with rising prices for industrial stocks, there occurred in the early weeks of September a considerable spurt in railroad-stock quotations. A writer in the New York *Evening Post*, reviewing the rise in these stocks, recalled that about the middle of August, when it was announced that Great Britain was about to float in this country $250,000,000 of three-year 5 per cent. bonds secured by deposits on the Stock Exchange, men in Wall Street declared that there would now occur the rise in railroad stocks that had been so long delayed. When finally the new British bond issue was announced, it was plainly intimated that the American securities which had been mobilized by the British Government would be used as collateral for this and other loans. In September the Wall Street prediction was fulfilled, altho the rise was not sufficient to put railroad stocks up to the points expected. But it led to considerable advances, such as in one week 8½ points in Union Pacific, 4½ in New York Central, and 3 in Baltimore & Ohio. Such industrial stocks as Mercantile Marine and Bethlehem Steel for weeks had been making advances that were phenomenal. The *Evening Post* writer said further:

"Last year's recovery in the earnings of the railroads was equal to the gains made by the industrial companies. But while the stocks of industrial companies were establishing one new high record after another, last year's high price for Atchison was 23 points below the high price established in 1909; Baltimore & Ohio's 29 below the high record made back in 1906; Canadian Pacific 89 points under the high-water mark touched in 1912. What has happneed this year to the stock-market prices of the railroad shares is shown below:

	High for 1915	*High for 1916*	*Low for 1916*	*This Week's Low*
Atchison	102¼	103¾	98⅝	102⅞
Balt. & Ohio	96	96	82⅞	85½
Can. Pacific	194	183¾	162½	175⅝
St. Paul	98¼	102½	91	91½
Northwest	135½	134¼	124	124
Great North.	128⅜	127½	116½	116½
Ill. Central	113	109½	99¾	100⅞
North Pac.	119	118⅞	108¼	109⅛
N. Y. Cent.	110½	111½	100¼	104
Penn.	61½	59¾	55⅛	55⅝
South. Pac.	104	104⅛	94½	97⅝
Union Pac.	141½	143⅞	129¾	138⅝

"This year's high for many seasoned dividend-paying railroad stocks is not only below the high for 1915, but early this week, while many industrial shares were selling at the very highest prices on record, a number of well-known railroad stocks, despite further gains in earnings, were selling at or near the low records for the year. From which it must be concluded that, despite the character of the collateral placed behind the recent British loan, the selling of our railroad stocks by the British Government or other foreign holders has continued.

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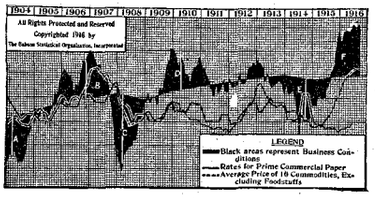
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tion, another good reason can be found to explain the backwardness of the railroad stocks. The upward movement of the industrial shares from the very beginning of the rise in the early spring of 1915 has been based on expectations of increased dividends or special distributions of accumulated profits. Exactly the same arguments were beginning to be heard to justify an advance in the railroad shares when the eight-hour controversy arose.

"Under the law recently passed the eight-hour day does not becomes operative until January 1, 1917. It is being admitted reluctantly that railway earnings justify the rumors heard only a few weeks ago of increased and extra dividends. To make such payments, however, before January 1 would greatly weaken the position of the railroads in the important fight which is to be made against the law. The main contention of the carriers is that they can not afford to operate under the Eight-Hour Law. In the meantime, however, from the view-point of investors, railway dividends are accumulating. Sooner or later the large earnings will be reflected both in the price and the dividend policy of the railroads."

BANK-CLEARINGS STILL REMARKABLE

Interesting comments were recently made by *Bradstreet's* on the extraordinary rise in our bank-clearings for August. While most means that we have for measuring economic movements continued to show a rise in prosperous conditions, the showing made by bank-clearings stood out conspicuous among them all. Two years after the war began we now have for the month of August a record volume of clearings; indeed, the total for August of this year was only slightly less than the combined totals for both August and September, 1914, the year when the war began. August in past years has generally shown itself to be a month in which occurred the smallest volume of clearings of the entire year, except those for February, a shorter month. But this year August had a greater volume of clearings than July, and, when compared with August last year, showed an increase of 38.02 per cent. When a comparison was struck with August, 1914, the increase was found to be 99 per cent. Going back to the two years preceding the war, that is, to 1913 and 1912, it appears that the gain in August this year was 60 per cent. over 1913, and 50 per cent. over 1912. Nearly all the cities concerned in the showing (118 altogether) showed increases over last year. Three only reported losses. Detroit, Kansas City, and San Francisco made returns which established a record. Other points brought out in *Bradstreet's* article are these:

"Changes in clearings in May, June, July, and August, as well as for the eight months ending with the month last named, are shown by sections in the following table, comparisons being with the corresponding months in 1915:

	Inc., May, 1916	*Inc., June, 1916*	*Inc., July, 1916*	*Inc., Aug., 1916*	*Inc., Eight Mos.*
New England	34.0	34.8	25.2	26.5	32.3
Middle	45.7	54.5	31.9	38.1	49.0
Western	44.7	45.3	33.8	37.8	40.4
Northwestern	26.6	24.1	23.5	33.7	23.6
Southwestern	28.3	23.3	28.0	49.8	23.9
Southern	37.7	37.6	27.4	44.8	28.9
Far-Western	32.6	25.7	18.9	32.5	23.0
Total, United States	41.4	45.9	29.7	38.2	41.5
New York City	42.4	56.4	31.5	37.8	49.7
Outside New York	34.8	31.9	27.2	38.8	30.0
Canadian	56.7	54.0	49.7	51.5	41.5

"The southwestern group leads with a gain of 49.8 per cent. over August of last

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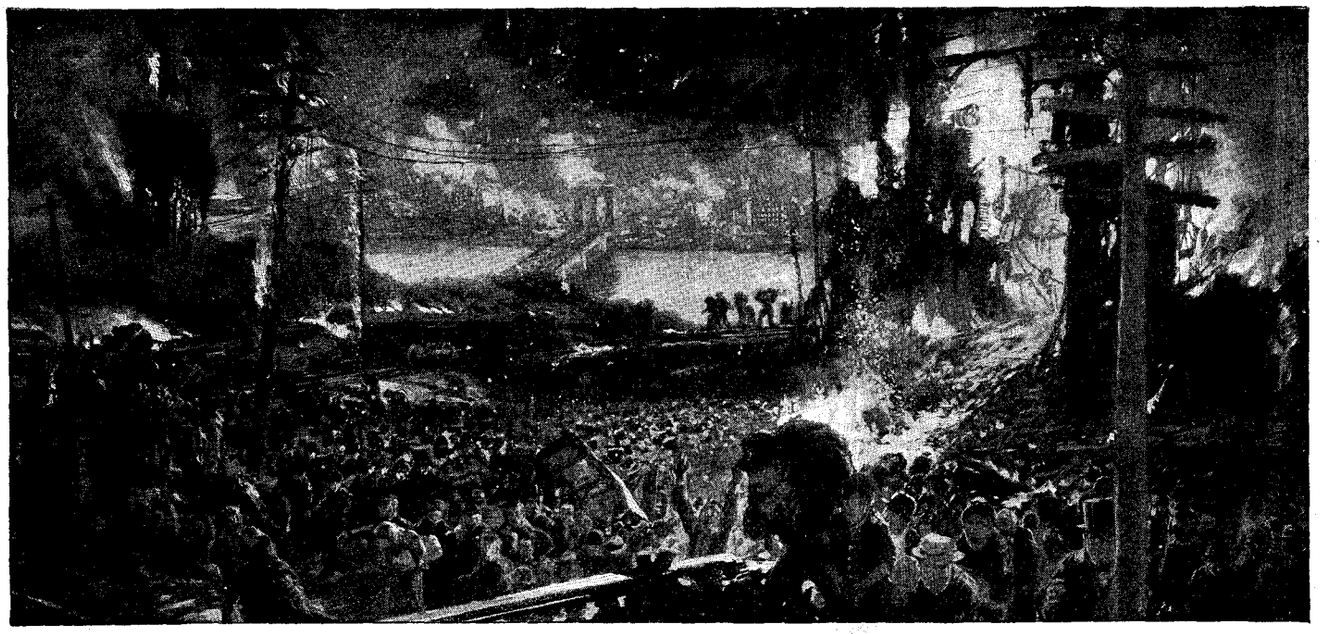

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Without rubber gloves and rubber surgical instruments the surgeon would be badly handicapped. Sufferings, unsoothed by the ice bag and hot water bottle, would be unbearably acute.

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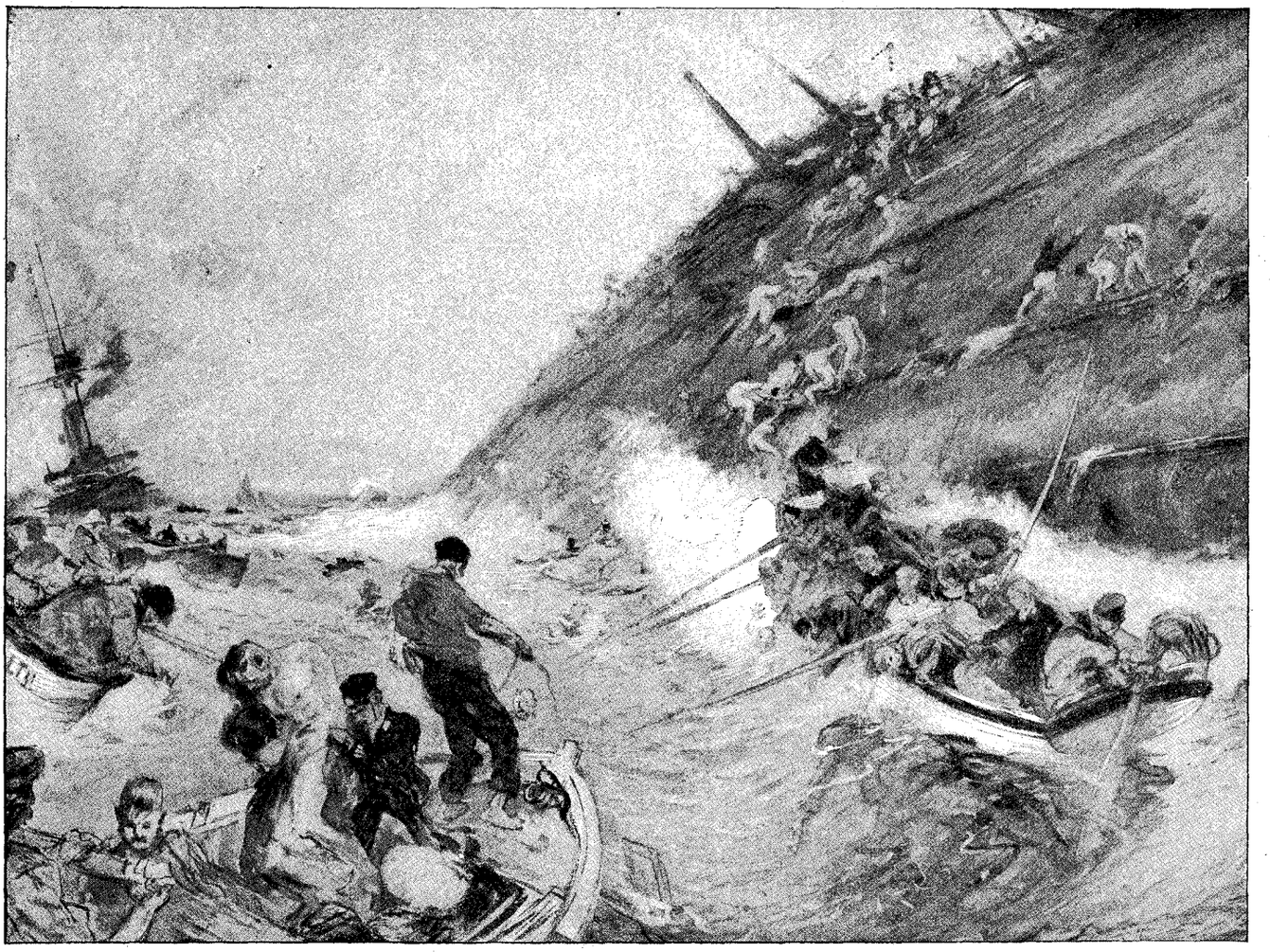

"Pity

—I was groping for words to picture it. There was no help in the dictionary and the 'pity' of the encyclopedia was just as bloodless, just as chilled and cold-cut. No thrill of feeling warmed me.

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year, while the southern division follows, its increase being 44.8 per cent. For the northwest the increment is 38.7 per cent., and the middle group exhibits a rise of 38.1 per cent., with the western showing an advance of 37.8 per cent. The far-western and New England groups contribute advances of 32.5 per cent. and 26.5 per cent., respectively.

"For eight months of the calendar year bank-clearings at all leading centers aggregate $157,707,156,536, an increase of 41.5 per cent. over the corresponding time last year, of 45 per cent. over the like period in 1914, and of 42 per cent. over the eight months of 1913. New York City's total for the eight months ending with August, $95,924,529,575, exhibits a gain of 49.7 per cent. over that time in 1915, of 57 per cent. over the same months of 1914, and of 52 per cent. over the first eight months of 1913. Outside of New York payments for the eight months' period aggregate $61,-782,626,961, an increase of 30 per cent. over the corresponding time last year and of 28 per cent. over 1914.

"Bank-clearings at New York City for the month of August aggregate $11,767,-316,806, the heaviest ever reported for this particular month, and a total that reflects a rise of 2.9 per cent. over July, while showing a gain of 37.8 per cent. over August of last year, when operations in stocks were .28 per cent. larger than they were in August the current year. Of course, the bond market was exceptionally active last month, and the new $250,000,-000 British collateral loan was brought out, while the general movement of prices for securities as well as commodities was upward. Comparison with August of 1914 shows that payments at the metropolis last month advanced 157 per cent. over those made during the initial month of the war, and contrast with the like month of 1913 and 1912 reveals gains of 74 per cent. and 57 per cent., respectively.

"Outside of New York bank-clearings for the month of August, $7,854,411,696, exhibit a gain of one-half of 1 per cent. over July, while reflecting a rise of 38.8 per cent. over August, 1915, and by virtue of that fact establishing the best record noted for any August. The present showing excels that of August, 1914, by 49 per cent., and surpasses the figures reported for the like month in 1913 by 42 per cent."

INVESTMENTS FOR PERSONS WHO CAN NO LONGER EARN

Men in financial institutions applied to for advice as to investments seek first to know the facts as to the investor's circumstances, whether he has other income already assured, either from salary or his own business, or from permanent investments; whether he has a large or a small number of persons dependent on him, or no persons at all; whether he is young or old; whether a man or a woman; whether still active in life, or from choice or necessity has retired. All these factors enter into any wise decision as to whether risks, even the smallest, can be taken. In the case of a man once active and successful and possest of accumulations, but who has retired, the problem becomes one in which, provided his means are not large, extreme care should be exercised. In order to meet the needs of a person of this class, a writer in *The Financial World* has compiled a list of gilt-edge bonds suitable for a "person who is now too old to continue to earn his living." There are now selling, he says, a number of excellent 5 per cent. bonds—some railroads, others industrials or public utilities—which sell at approximately par and so yield about 5 per cent. These are "attractive issues for any one who desires to

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be above fear of loss." Earlier in the year they sold several points above the present quotations. The writer has selected from a much larger possible list twenty such bonds which, he says, can be recommended because of past earning abilities, high rating, and marketability, as follows:

Railroads	Factor of Safety, P. C.	Rating	Present Price	High, 1916	Yield, P. C.
Atlanta & Char. 1st 5s...	67	A	100¾	101¼	4.96
Atch. (E.Okla.)1st 4s, 1928	89	AAA	96	96½	4.17
Dul. & I. R. 1st 5s, 1937..	92	AAA	100¾	103¾	4.96
Ill. Central joint 5s, 1963.	72	AA	100⅝	103¼	4.97
Lex. & East 1st 5s, 1965..	79	AA	101½	102	4.93
Tex. & Pacific 1st 5s....	66	AA	97	98¼	5.15
Ulster & D. 1st 5s, 1928..	60	AA	100	101¼	5.00
St. Paul & N. Pac. 1st 6s, 1923.....	87	AAA	109¾	110¾	5.47
Industrials					
Cen. Lea. gen'l 5s, 1925...	73	A	102½	102½	4.88
Indiana Steel 1st 5s, 1952.	*	AA	103	103½	4.83
Nat. Steel 1st 5s, 1952....	*	AA	101	103½	4.93
Lack. Steel 1st 5s, 1926...	76	A	99	100¾	5.05
Lig. & Myers deb. 5s,1951.	78	AA	102	103¾	4.90
P. Lorillard deb. 5s, 1951..	75	AA	101¾	102¼	4.91
Public Utilities					
Bklyn Un. El. 1st 5s, 1950	86	A	101	102½	4.95
Cal. G. & El. gen'l 5s,1933	78	AA	99¼	100	5.04
Gen. El. deb. 5s, 1952....	96	AA	104	105¼	4.81
Lacl. G. Lgt. 1st 5s, 1919.	76	AAA	102	102½	4.90
So. Bell T. & T.1st 5s, 1941	65	AA	101	101¼	4.95
Tri-CRy.&Lgt.col.5s, 1923	70	AA	99¼	100½	5.04

*High.

The writer explains that bonds rated as "AAA" should be regarded as of the higher class, not only in actual security of principal and interest, but in general marketability. Such bonds "will fluctuate and sell down in dull or unreasonable investment periods, but such changes in prices will not be due to any change or depreciation in their investment strength or true value." Bonds rated as "AA," while unquestionably high grade, "are not, broadly speaking, so ideally situated as those of first rating." They are, however, considered secure and on a high investment plane. Bonds rated "A" "are apt to be affected to some degree by changing earning-power, altho they, too, are to be regarded as high grade." The bonds mentioned above are all listed on the New York Stock Exchange, have a fair market and are legal for savings-bank funds in some States.

That Altered It.—"Ye-es," hesitated Mr. Justwed, "these cakes are pretty good, but don't you think there ought to be just a little more——"

"Your mother made them," interrupted Mrs. J., quickly.

"——of them?" ended Mr. J., with a flash of inspiration.—*Tit-Bits.*

THE LEXICOGRAPHER'S EASY CHAIR

In this column, to decide questions concerning the current use of words, the Funk & Wagnalls New Standard Dictionary is consulted as arbiter.

Readers will please bear in mind that no notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

"A. P. M.," Chicago, Ill.—"From when did the counting of the days begin, right from Christ's birth or some time later? If it began from Christ's birth, why is it that the year doesn't start from the Christ's birth, which was held, as we Christians believe, at 25th of December?"

The Christian era is reckoned from January 1 of the Roman year 754, or nine months and seven days after the incarnation, which was calculated by early Christian theologians to have taken place about March 25 of the Roman year 753. The year was placed back a week to coincide with the beginning of the Roman year, which commenced on January 1, although December 25 was observed as the anniversary of the birthday of Christ. The actual year of the birth of Christ is now placed by scholars as far back as 6 or 7 B.C., the early computers having made an error in their calculations. The Roman years were measured according to the *Julian* calendar which was succeeded by the *Gregorian* calendar, that now used in this country and by most European nations.

"J. O. S.," Ann Arbor, Mich.—"What is the history of the use of the word *marshmallow* in connection with confections?"

The word *marshmallow* may be traced back to the Anglo-Saxon *mersc-mealwe*. The confection is made from the dried root of the white marshmallow, *Althæa officinalis*, of second year's growth, which possesses mucilaginous qualities. The word was first used to designate the shrub which grew in the marshes, and the confection was named from the gelatinous character of the root and leaves of the shrub.

"L. W. W.," Los Angeles, Cal.—"Kindly give the meaning and derivation of the word *hypergoelasts* which appeared in your issue of March 20, 1915, on page 610."

This word is evidently one coined for the occasion by the writer in the London *Times*, from which the quotation was taken. Its etymology would seem to be from the Greek *hyper*, meaning "excessive," and *gelastos* one who laughs, the compound thus formed signifying "the people who laugh inordinately."

"J. H.," Denver, Colo.—"Kindly state where the following quotation occurs: 'Man's inhumanity to man made countless thousands mourn.'"

The lines you refer to occur in Burns's "Man Was Made to Mourn." The whole stanza reads as follows:

"Man—whose heaven-erected face
The smiles of love adorn—
Man's inhumanity to man
Makes countless thousands mourn!"

"J. L. W. H.," Columbus, Ohio.—"Where should the interrogation point be placed in the following sentence: 'If this be the ruling of the court, what do the following words mean: 'The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects . . . shall not be violated,' etc.?"

The interrogation point should be placed at the end of the entire sentence—"If this be the ruling of the court, what do the following words mean: 'The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects . . . shall not be violated,' etc.?"

"V. K.," Mt. Clemens, Mich.—"Kindly explain to me the meaning of the words *maffick* and *chortle*."

(1) *Maffick* means "to celebrate (an event) uproariously, as the relief of Mafeking in South Africa was celebrated in London and other English cities." (2) "*Chortle* means to chuckle or make loud noises to express joy." It is a portmanteau-word, combining "chuckle" and "snort," invented by Lewis Carroll. Both words are colloquialisms.

"C. H. D.," Bisbee, Ariz.—"(1) If it's a sprig of the mistletoe the American eagle has in his right talon (on the great seal, coat of arms, etc.), why so? (2) Is it correct to say: 'To figure out a homogeneous equation,' or 'To find a homogeneous equation'?"

(1) The eagle on the great seal of the United States of America has in its right talon an olive branch, furnished with 13 leaves, and 13 olives, typifying the 13 original States. The obvious symbolism, taken in connection with the 13 arrows in its left talon, is that the "bird of freedom" is prepared for war while desirous of peace. (2) The correct verb to use in connection with the working out of an equation is *solve*, as "To *solve* a homogeneous equation."

"H. P. D.," Ferguson, Mo.—"Can not *so* be used as a conjunction without justifying the criticism, 'Poor sentence construction'?"

The conjunction *so* may be used as a conjunction, as in the sentence, "He gave his promise, *so* they went away." We can not tell whether the criticism to which you refer is justified without having the sentence in which *so* is used as a conjunction before us.

"E. A. E.," Bethel, Conn.—"Would the word *choir*, meaning an assembly of singers be considered incorrect at the present time if spelled *quire*?"

The form *quire* is a rare spelling of the word *choir* and is not in use to-day, altho it is to be found in the Book of Common Prayer in use in the Anglican Church. However, the preferred spelling is *choir*, which is used by the best writers to-day.

"G. T.," Hammond, Ind.—"Which is correct: '*It* is between you and *I*,' or '*It* is between you and *me*'?"

Both pronouns are objects of the preposition *between* and should be in the objective case; say "*between you and me*."

Classified Columns

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CASH—For any discarded jewelry; for any watches or diamonds; for any discarded false teeth. Send us any diamonds, watches, old gold, platinum or silver jewelry, new or broken, any false teeth, with or without gold, any dental fillings, painters' gold leaf cotton, or auto magneto points, nothing too large or too small. We send value in cash on receipt of goods. Your goods returned at our expense should our offer be refused within ten days. Established 1899. Liberty Refining Company, 432 F. Wood Street, Pittsburgh, Pa.

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